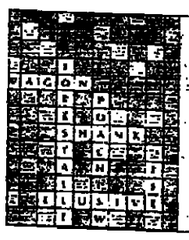
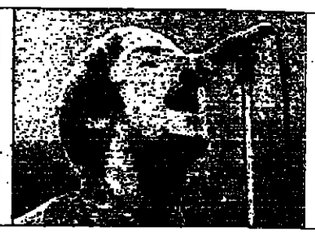
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TODAY'S DETAILS, PAGE 30



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DAVID SINCLAIR, PAGE 14



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25p

THE TIMES

No. 65,417 MONDAY NOVEMBER 6 1995

World mourns 'martyr for peace'

Security fears as leaders gather for Rabin funeral

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

A SHOCKED and uncertain Israel today plays host to dozens of monarchs, presidents and prime ministers who will turn the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin into a display of international solidarity for the Middle East peace process.

The world's leaders arrive amid angry demands for a full investigation into the security lapses that led to Mr Rabin's assassination at a peace rally on Saturday night and widespread concern about security at the funeral today.

President Clinton, President Mubarak of Egypt and King Husain of Jordan will all be given extra security. Mr Mubarak was only recently the target of an assassination attempt by Sudanese-backed Islamic militants in Addis Ababa.

Yassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, withdrew a request to go to Jerusalem to the funeral in a gesture of conciliation to avoid inflaming the Israeli Right. He nevertheless paid his respects to Mr Rabin, saying he was very sad and very shocked about "this awful and terrible crime against one of the brave leaders of Israel".

Mr Clinton, who will be joined at the funeral by former presidents George Bush and Jimmy Carter, also offered a tribute to Mr Rabin, describing him as a "warrior for his nation's freedom, and now a martyr for his nation's peace." The Queen sent a message expressing sympathy and John Major said the Israeli Prime Minister had given his life for peace.

Meanwhile the head of Shin Bet, the previously renowned Israeli internal security service, was called back from a secret destination abroad for the investigation into how a 25-year-old student was able to shoot Mr Rabin twice at close range. The urgency of the inquiry has been increased by Israeli television footage showing Mr Rabin protected by only two bodyguards shortly before the shooting.

Yossi Sarid,the Environment minister said: "Something terribly wrong has happened, and it is obvious something should be fixed."

Western experts said that the main lapses included the Prime Minister's failure to wear a bullet-proofed vest, despite repeated threats against his life in recent weeks by extreme right-wing Jews who have branded him a "traitor" for starting to hand back the occupied West Bank to the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

There were also suggestions that Shin Bet was not psychologically prepared for an attack by a Jew but only by Arabs. In recent days, it received hard intelligence reports that Mr Rabin had been targeted in revenge for Mossad's killing last month of the Islamic Jihad leader Fathi Shqaqi. Mr Rabin usually had two or three bodyguards, but the number had been increased in recent months.

Mr Rabin has been replaced temporarily by Shimon Peres, the Foreign Minister, who was also on the assassin's hit list. He gave an immediate pledge to continue with the peace process, which is due to see Israeli evacuation from most Arab cities in the occupied West Bank by early next year. "There is nothing else that we

Continued on page 2, col 3



"I acted alone on God's orders and I have no regrets"

— Yigal Amir, after his arrest for killing Yitzhak Rabin

ON OTHER PAGES

Stalking assassin 2
Peace pledge 3
William Rees-Mogg 18
Conor Cruise O'Brien 18
Leading article 19
Obituary 21



Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres sitting beside Yitzhak Rabin's black-draped empty chair at a Israeli Cabinet meeting yesterday. The assassin intended to kill him, too

'From this day on, Israel is not the same country'



Israel must come to terms not only with the death of its leader, but with the realisation that it has enjoyed a false sense of security, says Christopher Walker

A RIGHT-WING Jewish law student armed with a .22-calibre pistol has succeeded where the five Arab-Israeli wars fought since 1948 have failed — to destroy the faith of the Israeli people in their security services and to prompt large numbers to ask whether the future of their state is viable.

Yesterday, as tens of thousands of Israelis queued in the blistering afternoon sun and the cool of the Middle Eastern night to pay emotional last respects to Yitzhak Rabin, the first Prime Minister of Israel to be assassinated and the only one ever born here, the question on everyone's lips was what would happen in the future now Jew had begun killing Jew?

As the tears flowed unashamedly from grown men in uniforms carrying automatic rifles and schoolchildren whose day had begun with a minute's silence, there was a sense of total disbelief I had only witnessed once before — in Egypt in October, 1981 after President Sadat was mown down by Islamic militants disguised as soldiers. They,like Mr Rabin's assassin, were convinced that bullets could halt the chances of Jews and Arabs ever living side by side in peace.

"I feel very sad and quite despairing for the future of this country," said Benny Chukrun, 35, a computer engineer who insisted on bringing his five-month-old daughter Tamar to the lying in state outside the Knesset, the symbol of Israel's still fragile democracy. "It will now be very difficult ever to build a bridge between those in Israel with different political ideas."

As Israelis shuffled past the coffin with the Star of David draped over it, Mr Chukrun explained why — against the wishes of his wife Michal — he had brought his daughter. "The only hope for the nation now is its young people, only they can show us what real democracy is. That is why she is here."

Also standing red-eyed before the coffin while bearded Jews on all sides intoned verses from the psalms and lit special memorial candles was Ifat Cohen, a 16-year-old from the hardline Jewish settlement of Efrat in the West Bank.

"I just cannot believe that it has happened in this country," she said as another settler friend wept uncontrollably on her shoulder. "It is very hard for us Israelis to accept that a Jew has killed a Jew. I disagreed with Mr Rabin's policies on settlements, but I had to come here today. I feel that if we got to this level,the Jewish state is in big, big trouble."

The *Jerusalem Post*, in an agonised front-page editorial, took up the theme of fratricide that was obsessing Israelis of all political colours: "No nation has suffered more from what is known in Hebrew as 'fraternal hatred' or 'hatred without a cause'. In Jewish tradition, such hatred is blamed for the destruction of the Second Temple. Had such hatred not splintered the nation at crucial junctures of its existence, the history of the Jewish people would have been different."

Just as the 1982 Lebanon war smashed the national illusion about the invincibility of the Israeli Army, so the shooting of Mr Rabin at a peace rally attended by hundreds of security men has shattered the cherished image of Israel's superior security forces and methods. "There were obviously a lot of mistakes. There is now a big investigation under way," an official from Shin Bet, the once vaunted Israeli equivalent of MI5, said.

As Yossi Sarid, one of the Cabinet's leading doves whose life has also been threatened by extreme right-wing Jews, admitted in reference to the universal conviction that such things only happened in neighbouring Arab countries: "From this day on, Israel is not the same country. I always stubbornly thought that perhaps we are better than others, but we are not — not even a little. We are facing an obligation for soul-searching and the obligation of the Israeli right is to check itself."

Beside the coffin, the crumpled figure of Leah Rabin supported by son Yuval was a haunting reminder of the false sense of security that predominated until those three shots rang out across the balmy night air of Tel Aviv.

Only minutes before the attack on her husband, an Israeli journalist had asked if the Prime Minister was wearing a bullet-proofed vest. "Why all of a sudden a protective vest?" she responded in genuine astonishment, despite the repeated reports in

Continued on page 2, col 4

Gas company's £50 saving deal

Gas consumers in the South West of England are promised savings averaging £50 a year by Amerada Hess Gas when an experimental scheme is introduced next April ..... Page 44

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Unionist blow to Tories over revealing earnings

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

CONSERVATIVE MPs fighting against the declaration of their outside earnings suffered an unexpected setback yesterday when David Trimble, the leader of the Ulster Unionists, backed the Nolan committee's call for disclosure.

The attendance of members of the minority parties could be decisive in the Commons vote tonight as the Tories had been counting on the Unionists staying away.

But last night it appeared that at least some of Mr Trimble's party and the Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionists would be present. Mr Trimble said that he would "probably" attend, having previously told GMTV that he preferred disclosure because "it is better for the public to know on matters like this that affect public confidence institutions".

Neither John Major nor Tony Blair will be present because they are attending the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin. Malcolm Rifkind and Paddy Ashdown will also be in Israel.

Up to a dozen Tory MPs may vote for disclosure and if there is a sizeable number of abstentions the Conservatives would lose, prompting a historic change in Commons practices. Some Tories may fall in behind a compromise suggesting that new rules should be introduced after the next election.

Meanwhile a Conservative MP alleged to have entered an agreement to accept cash for arranging a meeting between a businessman and ministers denied any impropriety.

According to *The Sunday Times*, Barry Porter, MP for Wirral South, told a reporter posing as a businessman that he was willing to be paid a fee. But Mr Porter said nothing had happened.

MPs' denial, page 10
Peter Riddell, page 18

Bar code fights sex bias

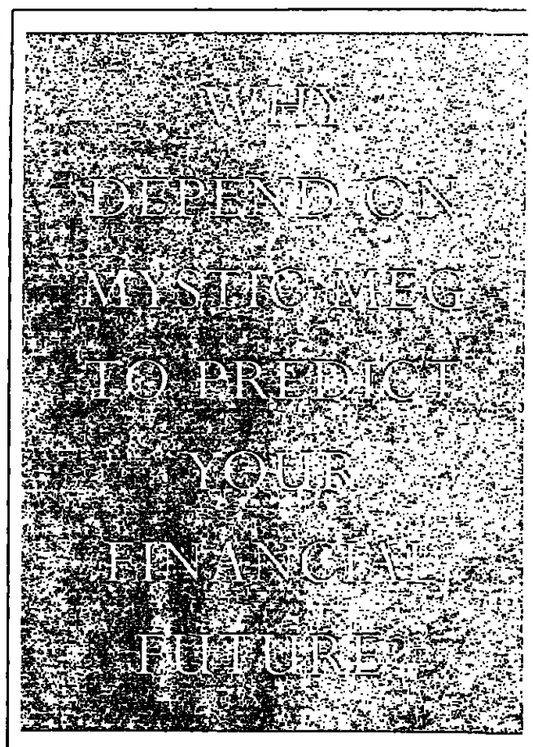
An equality code for the Bar has been introduced to stamp out sexual and racial discrimination and rid the profession of its "old boy network". Barristers are also advised on how to avoid charges of sexual harassment and told to avoid recruiting "in their own image" or on the basis of good academic results when interviewing trainees. The guidelines — the most comprehensive and politically correct code to be issued to any profession — is the result of three years' debate ..... Page 11

Andreotti murder charge

The former Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, already on trial for alleged membership of the Mafia, has been indicted on charges of ordering the murder of an investigative journalist. Signor Andreotti and the former overseas trade minister Claudio Vitalone are accused of commissioning the killing in 1979 to prevent Mino Pecorelli blackmailing them ..... Page 12

Blair's welfare shake-up

Tony Blair has ordered Shadow Cabinet colleagues to "think the unthinkable" and come up with proposals for reform of the welfare state that can outflank the Tories. He has asked him to go beyond the proposals drawn up after a study by the Social Justice Commission, set up by John Smith ..... Page 10



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TV & RADIO 22, 44
WEATHER 22
CROSSWORDS 22, 44

LETTERS 19
OBITUARIES 21
WILLIAM REES-MOGG 18

ARTS 14, 15
CHESS & BRIDGE 33
COURT & SOCIAL 20

SPORT 23-35
MIND & MATTER 16
LAW REPORT 36

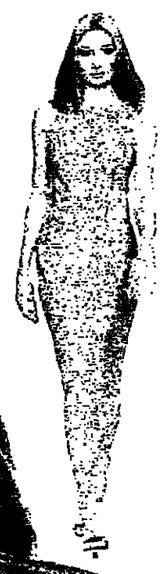
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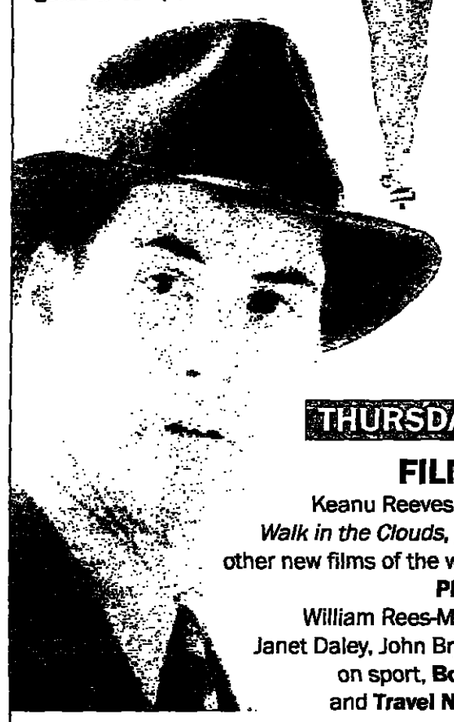
TUESDAY

TRAVEL
Win a safari for two in Tanzania - holidays to be won every day this week
PLUS:
Libby Purves, Nigella Lawson, **Body and Mind, Law** - and play to win £50,000 with **Interactive Team Football**



WEDNESDAY

FASHION
Iain R. Webb, fashion journalist of the year, on no-fuss, New York style
PLUS:
Simon Jenkins, Alan Coren, and **Interface**, the weekly guide to computers



THURSDAY

FILMS
Keanu Reeves in *A Walk in the Clouds*, plus other new films of the week
PLUS:
William Rees-Mogg, Janet Daley, John Bryant on sport, **Books** and **Travel News**

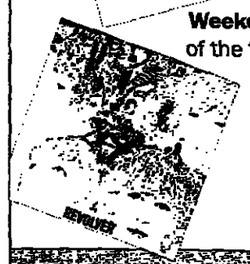
FRIDAY



POP
Caitlin Moran and David Sinclair on modern music and musicians
PLUS:
Bernard Levin, Valerie Grove, Clement Freud and **Education**

SATURDAY





MAGAZINE
Win a trio of Beatles' platinum discs
PLUS:
Weekend: how to get a free CD of the top ten tracks of the year
1015: the magazine for young Times readers
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Israel in turmoil: Fanatics go all out to break peace deal

The stalking assassin who killed Rabin at third try

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM AND TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

YIGAL AMIR, a Jewish law student, yesterday made a detailed confession to Israeli police declaring that he had shot Yitzhak Rabin and was happy that he had died. Mr Amir, 25, said he had twice attempted to be close enough to assassinate the Prime Minister in the past, and had also planned to murder Shimon Peres, now the acting Prime Minister.

On the first occasion, he was foiled from shooting Mr Rabin after the Israeli leader failed to show up at Yad Vashem, the country's Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem, because of a suicide bus bombing. The second attempt was to have been made at the opening of a bridge, but Mr Amir's plans on this occasion also went astray. Mr Amir was forcibly ejected from a rally in September after screaming about Mr Rabin's abandonment of 140,000 West Bank settlers.

Mr Amir also told police

THE GUNMAN

that, if Mr Peres and Mr Rabin had left the peace rally in Tel Aviv on Saturday night at the same time, he would have shot both.

In another cold and calculated interview earlier this year, the assassin said the Jews would always control the West Bank despite Israel's attempts to concede "the most holy land" for peace. "The Government's backbone is very weak," Mr Amir told *The Washington Post* in June. "And maybe that is the reason they are willing to give up everything for peace."

Standing in an illegal new Jewish settlement named Maale Yisrael, Ascent of Israel, in the upper West Bank, Mr Amir said: "This is the most holy land. Two thousand years ago most of the population of Israel was here, in Samaria and Jerusalem."

During the interview, Mr Amir said the Israeli Government would not survive to complete its programme for change but gave no indication of his future intent. Described as slender, intense and self-controlled, the dark-haired student explained how he hitchhiked every day from law classes at Bar Ilan University to the illegal encampment.

Asked about the Arab villages near by, planted with orchards of apple and almond trees, he gave no hint of rapprochement with his neighbours. "Because they work the land, does not mean it belongs to the Arabs," said Mr Amir, who added that Jewish settlers might move next to those villages. Unlike other radical nationalists, he was said to have displayed little emotion and did not raise his voice when questioned about the future of Israel.

Mr Amir, a law and computer science student, was said to come from Herzliya, an affluent beachfront suburb north of Tel Aviv, where his mother is a kindergarten teacher and his father a biblical calligrapher. He spent his army service in the elite Golani combat brigade and served as an immigration official for the Jewish Agency in the former Soviet Union.

At Maale Yisrael, he lived and worked amid senior representatives of the Yesha Council, the umbrella organisation for Jewish settlers, and of Likud Youth. The encampment was filled with placards and banners stating "The Land of Israel is in Danger".

A portable lavatory invited settlers to express their contempt for the peace process. A hand-written sign dubbed the lavatory the "Oslo Agreement", in reference to the Norwegian accord to change Palestinian self-rule.

After the shooting, Mr Amir told Israeli police interrogators that he had "received instructions from God to kill Rabin" and had acted alone. Police said last night they were investigating the possibility that Mr Amir's brother and others might have been involved in the assassination.

William Rees-Mogg, page 18
Leading article, page 19
Obituary, page 21



Yigal Amir, said to be from an extremist Jewish group, who was seized after Yitzhak Rabin was shot three times at close range at a peace rally in Tel Aviv

Handing back of 'biblical land' angers militants

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

EXTREME RIGHT

AS THE peace process with the Palestinians has advanced, the fanaticism of the Israeli extreme Right has become more violent and increasingly focused against leading Labour government members who are accused of giving back territory regarded by the zealots as "Eretz Israel" or the biblical land of Israel.

Weeks before the three fatal shots rang out over Tel Aviv's main square, Yitzhak Rabin and other senior ministers were provided with extra protection because of threats by shadowy groups such as Eyal (a Hebrew acronym for the Fighting Jewish Organisation) with which the gunman was associated.

While most Israeli Jews, including those belonging to conventional right-wing parties such as Likud, recoiled when extremists demonstrated with a caricature of Mr Rabin dressed as a Nazi stormtrooper, the 300 or 400 regarded as hard-core activists became convinced only assassination could halt the 1993 peace deal with the PLO.

Eyal, which has its intellectual base at Tel Aviv's religious Bar Ilan University, was an offshoot of the outlawed anti-Arab Kach movement founded by the late Rabbi Meir Kahane, an American Jew assassinated by an Arab gunman in New York. These groups had made a hero of Barukh Goldstein, the settler who massacred 30 Palestinian worshippers in a Hebron mosque last year.

Menachem Friedman, a Bar Ilan expert on Israel's religious right, said many extremists believed killing the leader could stop the process they see as leading to an independent Palestinian state.

Judgment passed by friends and foes

"I believe there is now a chance for peace, a great chance, and we must take advantage of it for those standing here, and for those who are not here, and they are many. I have always believed that the majority of the people want peace and are ready to take a chance for peace."
Yitzhak Rabin, addressing the Tel Aviv peace rally before he was shot

"I acted alone on God's orders and I have no regrets."
Yigal Amir, the Jewish student arrested on suspicion of killing Rabin, to police

"Yitzhak Rabin was my partner, my friend. I admired him and I loved him very much. Because words cannot express my true feelings, let me just say: 'Shalom' . . . Goodbye friend."
President Clinton

"He didn't make a final testament but the last song he sang [at the rally] was the 'Song of Peace'. He put this song in his pocket and the bullet went through this song. The song of peace ringing in our ears will not end."
Shimon Peres, now the acting Israeli Prime Minister

"I am very sad and very shocked for this awful and terrible crime against one of the brave leaders of Israel and the peacemakers."
Yassir Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation

"I am not sorry for the killing of Rabin, who is the world's No 1 terrorist. It is the blessing of the martyr leader Fathi Shqaqi's blood."
Ramadan Abdallah Shallah, the Islamic Jihad leader and successor to Fathi Shqaqi who was assassinated in Malta last week

"We regret that Rabin was killed by a Jew because he should have been killed by a Palestinian."
Ahmed Jibril, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, General Command, to reporters



Rabin at the peace rally in Tel Aviv

A 'martyr for peace'

Continued from page 1

can do but to continue a great road paved by a great leader," he said.

Mr Peres was last night under pressure from some elements in the ruling Labour Party to call an early general election while the country is likely to unite behind a fallen leader. Mr Peres has only a razor-thin majority in the Knesset and many at the centre and on the left of Israeli politics believe that the national mood of revulsion against the killing of Mr Rabin will turn the tables on the main opposition Likud party, which is ahead in the opinion polls.

Likud has pledged to freeze the peace process with the PLO and insist on the right of hot pursuit into PLO-controlled Gaza and Jericho.

Under the Israeli constitution, Mr Peres's transitional administration has all the authority of a regular government. But members cannot be added or substracted and it cannot be voted out of power with a no-confidence vote.

Theoretically, once the President asks him to form a new, rather than transitional government, Mr Peres could soldier on until next November. Likud announced yesterday that it would not oppose his bid to form a new government, but attacked smears against its leadership by left-wing politicians in the wake of the Tel Aviv assasination.

When a man resembling Likud leader Benajmin Netanyahu entered Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital where Mr Rabin was rushed on saturday night, the angry crowd gathered there mistakenly thought ity was the politician and began shouting: "Inciter. You made this happen. You will pay for it."

The Israeli Left has repeatedly accused mainstream Right-wing parties opposed to the peace process of stirring up a militant fringe such as the Eyal group to which Mr Rabin's assassin was linked.

Concern about internal stability badly affected shares on the Tel Aviv stock exchange yesterday. But some dealers said that they expected the fallin the main index to be worse than the 3.32 per cent loss recorded.

'No longer the same nation'

Continued from page 1

recent weeks of right-wing death threats. "Have you gone crazy? What are we — in Africa?"

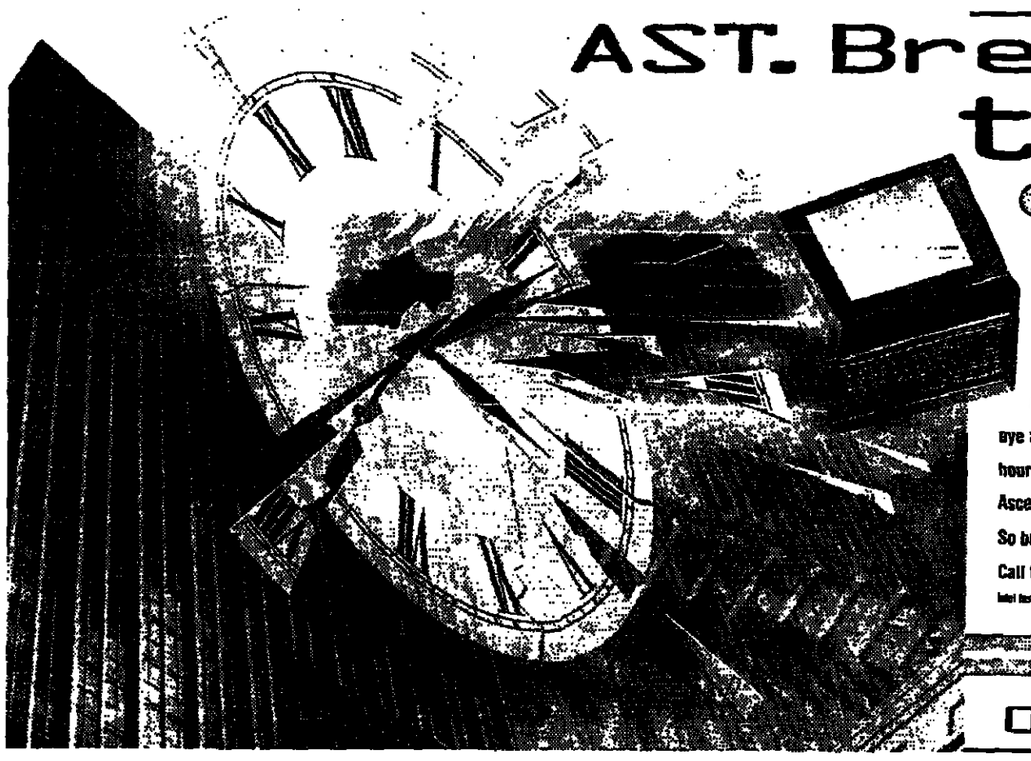
In light of recent threats, the prescient newsman asked if Mrs Rabin was not afraid that a lunatic would rush up and shoot her husband. "Why all of a sudden protection? What sort of protection? I do not understand the ideas you journalists have," she replied demonstrating a misconception shared by many Israelis about the state of the increasingly polarised society.

A confession made yesterday by the 25-year-old assasin and publicised by the Israeli Police Chief revealed that he had originally intended to murder Shimon Peres, the Foreign Minister and chief architect of the peace deal with the Palestinians, as well as Mr Rabin. But Mr Peres was only his "secondary target" and when he stepped down from the platform ahead of the Prime Minister, he inadvertently saved his life. When the killer was told that Mr Rabin had died, he replied simply: "I am happy."

Although the coffin which was destined to sit in front of the Knesset for 22 hours was the focal point of the nation's grief, impromtu shrines were set up at the place of the killing, outside Mr Rabin's Jerusalem residence and in Zion Square in the heart of the holy city, where some Israelis just sat on the pavement, heads in their hands, sobbing louder than the roar of the nearby traffic.

Today at 2pm as the funeral in the National Cemetery on Mount Herzl is due to commence, sirens throughout the nation will sound for two minutes silence and everything will come to a halt. Millions of Israeli Jews will be wondering if life will ever be the same again.

"I feel that not only Mr Rabin died in Tel Aviv. Part of what was the Jewish state also died on Saturday night," said Pinny Cohen, a 19-year-old student waiting to start his compulsory army service. "Jews will no longer be able to lecture the Arabs on security and they will no longer be certain that our society is the best in the world."



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World's fears: Leaders confront threats to fragile agreement



Two Israeli women soldiers saluting after laying a wreath by the flag-draped coffin of Yitzhak Rabin as the assassinated leader lay in state at the Knesset yesterday

US President vows to keep the peace process on track

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE United States moved swiftly last night to maintain momentum in the Middle East as President Clinton vowed to shore up an increasingly fragile peace process.

Mr Clinton, who ordered flags in Washington to be flown at half mast until Yitzhak Rabin is buried, was expected to reinforce his message when he speaks to the Knesset before the Israeli Prime Minister's funeral today.

"The peace process that he began will be his legacy," said the American President in an emotional address in the Rose Garden. "The people of the United States and the peace-loving people of the world are determined that the peace process will go forward."

Mr Clinton telephoned Shimon Peres, the acting Prime Minister of Israel, and President Mubarak of Egypt, before spending almost an hour speaking to Leah Rabin, the widow of the murdered leader. Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, who was said to be "completely broken up by the news", was planning conversations with PLO and Syrian officials yesterday before joining Mr Clinton on board Air Force One.

AMERICA

The American delegation included Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, Robert Dole, the Senate majority leader, and 50 members of Congress.

Anthony Lake, the National Security Adviser, William Perry, the Defence Secretary, and General John Shalikashvili, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, were among a large group representing the Administration, which has staked much on the forward momentum of efforts for Middle East peace. Seen as the most important foreign policy initiative of his presidency, Mr Clinton had brought together Mr Rabin and Yassir Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, for an historic handshake in 1993 and had, until the weekend, believed there was every chance of a successful outcome.

By attending the funeral in Jerusalem, the first service for a foreign dignitary ever visited by Mr Clinton, the President is hoping to send a clear signal to the Israeli people that the United States is standing firmly behind the supporters of the peace accord, most notably Mr Peres.

The White House is also aware that the symbolic presence of the President in Jerusalem is likely to play back favourably to the substantial Jewish electorate in the United States.

William Rees-Mogg, page 18
Leading article, page 19
Obituary, page 21



Leah Rabin, the widow of the Israeli Prime Minister, is comforted yesterday outside the Knesset by their son, Yuval, and daughter, Dalia Philosoph

Clinton salutes vision of a martyr

BY MICHAEL BINYON AND MICHAEL THEODOULOU

KINGS, Presidents and Prime Ministers voiced their anguish and grief yesterday, paying tribute to the life and vision of Yitzhak Rabin as they flew to Jerusalem for his funeral today.

President Clinton, who set off last night with former Presidents George Bush and Jimmy Carter, said the world had lost one of its greatest men — "a warrior for his nation's freedom, and now a martyr for his nation's peace". The

TRIBUTES

Queen sent a message expressing her "profound sympathy". John Major said Mr Rabin was a personal friend. "He gave his life for peace. His best memorial would lie in achieving it." The Prime Minister flew to Israel with Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, Tony Blair, the Labour leader, and Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader. President Yeltsin was reported to have been "shaken" by the news, which he received in hospital.

King Husain of Jordan will attend the funeral, as will President Mubarak of Egypt, who will make his first visit to Israel. Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organisation leader, decided not to attend for political and security reasons.

Arab leaders hailed Mr Rabin's historic contribution to territorial peace, but their people expressed little sorrow for a man many held responsible for shedding so much Arab blood. Newspaper editorials and opinion columns in several countries demanded that the past should not be forgotten.

On the streets of Cairo, at peace with Israel for 16 years, the response ranged from indifference to glee. States such as Iran and Libya that are bitterly opposed to the Middle East peace process branded Mr Rabin a terrorist, while militant groups in Lebanon lit up the night sky with gunfire.

Across the Middle East there was relief that the assassin had not been an Arab or Muslim.

Jakobovits warned of settler despair

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S Jewish community was united in shock, grief and mourning yesterday as it tried to come to terms with the assassination of the Israeli Prime Minister. At a meeting in Switzerland today Jewish leaders will debate the implications of the assassination.

At the Conference of European Rabbis meeting, Lord Jakobovits, Britain's former Chief Rabbi and conference president, will discuss "the shock, the grief, the shame" of Yitzhak Rabin's death. He said last night: "This presents a particular challenge to the religious community, since this was born out of a religious fanaticism. It also represents a distortion of Jewish values."

He added: "We may well have to revise our educational system to ensure such a thing can never happen again."

In recent correspondence with Mr Rabin, Lord Jakobovits urged him to reassure the settlers that their

JEWRY

concerns were understood. In his letter, Lord Jakobovits said the settlers felt abandoned. "They believe the Government does not sufficiently care. They need constant reassurance that their present despair is well understood."

In his reply, Mr Rabin agreed that additional efforts must be made to reassure Israelis living in the territories. He appreciated their "tremendous concerns".

☐ **New York:** Shouts of "Hurray, Rabin is dead" were heard outside a synagogue in the Queens area and a conservative, Rabbi Mordecai Friedmann, went on a local radio station to describe the shooting as "an act of God" (Quentin Letts writes). He quoted from the Bible and said that Mr Rabin had made himself a legitimate target by associating with terrorists.

Peres will continue search for accord

BY LAWRENCE FREEDMAN

YITZHAK RABIN died a man of peace, a fact confirmed by his last public words and the setting for his murder. It was a role made possible by virtue of much of his life being devoted to war; for most Israelis, therefore, he was not a man to trifle with their security.

Moreover, his decision to make peace was strategic rather than idealistic. He recognised that attempts to annex the occupied territories would produce a greater Israel of chronic instability. He saw also that opinion within the Arab world, even in the Palestine Liberation Organisation, was tending towards some sort of compromise, and that America would no longer tolerate Israeli intransigence.

Nothing that has happened over the past three years has changed that basic strategic calculus. There are debates to be had over what risks might

COMMENTARY

be taken when granting further Palestinian autonomy, over the Jewish settlements and the ultimate status of Jerusalem, but there is no longer a serious debate to be had over the fundamental direction.

The extremist alternative, relying on biblical claims for territorial expansion, is simply not an option. Even the Likud opposition lacked, when in government, the nerve to push in this direction.

There is no doubting the commitment of Mr Rabin's successor, Shimon Peres, to the process. He is one of its main architects. The doubts are political: he is not as reassuring a figure as Mr Rabin and he faces a hotly contested election next year. If his Labour Party lost ground, the new government would probably not be strongly right-wing (Likud has its own divisions) but rather another patched up coalition, unable to be decisive. Within the bounds of good taste, Mr Peres will want to bring the election forward to get his own mandate, while the Right are still on the defensive, attempting to rebut the accusation that their inflammatory rhetoric led to Mr Rabin's assassination.

In this sense it would have been worse if Mr Rabin had been killed by a Palestinian, for that would have exaggerated the divide between the two communities and allowed the Israeli hawks to offer the murder as proof that Arabs cannot be trusted. The same would have been true if a Jew had killed an Arab leader.

When a leader is assassinated by one of his own, then his country has no choice but to look into its own soul.

Nonetheless, without his own mandate, it will still be difficult for Mr Peres to move fast. There must be some danger that Palestinian extremists will move to exploit the work of their Jewish counterparts with a new atrocity, so almost inciting Mr Peres to demonstrate that he, too, can be tough.

He must also show that he is not over-enthusiastic when addressing the remaining item of business as yet unfinished: coming to terms with President Assad of Syria.

President Clinton, of course, has a stake in keeping the peace process moving: we can expect an active effort now to ensure that, this time next year, at the height of the presidential election campaign, the Middle East remains for Mr Clinton an important foreign policy success.

The speed and direction of Middle Eastern peacemaking has never been simply a matter for Arabs and Jews.

Lawrence Freedman is Professor of War Studies at King's College London

Credo

Challenge left by passing of a fearless warrior

Dr Jonathan Sacks

This is a dark and bitter day for the Jewish people. The death of Yitzhak Rabin has left us shocked and bereaved.

Mr Rabin was more than a leader of Israel. More than any of his contemporaries, he exemplified the spirit of Israel, a country which has shown courage in waging war, and even greater courage in the pursuit of peace.

By training and temperament he was a soldier. He was the kind of strong man trusted by Israelis, someone who placed security considerations at the top of his agenda, ever aware of the dangers his country faced from terrorism. It was this strength that gave him the moral authority to pursue peace with the Palestinians.



As the suicide bombings and acts of terror continued, internal opposition to the peace process became more extreme. In some quarters Rabin was branded as a "traitor". It was a bitter reward for one who had devoted his life to his country's defence. The tragic irony of Saturday night's event is that it took place at the end of a demonstration in support of the Prime Minister's policies. Those who were present at the rally have told me how visibly moved Mr Rabin was by the endorsement of the large crowd.

As on other occasions, his words to the crowd had a biblical resonance. On this, his last address, he echoed the words of Moses at the end of his life, as he made a covenant "with those who are standing with us today, and those who are not here today" (Deuteronomy, 29:14). Yitzhak Rabin was a secular Jew, but his vision was shaped by the biblical tradition and by the prophetic passion for peace. His death would have been tragic in any event.

The real trauma with which we will have to live is that the Prime Minister of Israel was assassinated by a fellow Jew, acting under what he believed to be divine inspiration.

Such an act is a travesty of Judaism. Jews have always believed in the sanctity of life and the prohibition against murder, whatever the motivation.

Jewish history contains a precise parallel. After the conquest of Israel by the Babylonians in 586 BCE (Before the Common Era) a Jewish governor, Gedaliah ben Ahikam, was left in charge of those not carried into exile. Gedaliah was a moderate who pursued a policy of coexistence with the Babylonians. A group of Jewish extremists, regarding him as a traitor, assassinated him. The consequences were catastrophic. To this day Jews observe the anniversary of that event as a public fast.

Whether or not the anniversary of Yitzhak Rabin's death is similarly commemorated, it will endure in Jewish memory as a lasting rebuke to those who believe that one can serve God by murdering humanity created in His image.

The deepest religious impulse in Judaism is the search for peace. Yitzhak Rabin did more than anyone else to take his people along this risk-laden road. Courageous throughout his life, he has left us with a challenge in his death: to continue what he began, not minimising the dangers but not flinching from them either. May peace be his legacy to the Jewish people.

Dr Jonathan Sacks is the Chief Rabbi.

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INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS

President may abandon visit to 'relatives' after family tree fails to find proof of ancestral connection

Genealogists cast doubt on Clinton's Ulster roots

BY NICHOLAS WATT IN BELFAST AND TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON is expected to abandon plans to seek out his long-lost Irish relatives during his visit to Northern Ireland later this month because White House officials are unsure of his ancestral roots.

A genealogist employed by the White House to investigate claims that the President is descended from the Cassidy clan in Co Fermanagh has been unable to provide conclusive proof of the link.

The President was said to have been delighted when the clan announced earlier this year that Mr Clinton was related through his mother, Virginia Cassidy, to Micky Cassidy, a 65-year-old farmer who lives in Roslea. White House officials were dispatched to Mr Cassidy's 30-acre farm last month to work out the feasibility of a presidential tour of the ancestral homestead.

After painstaking research they now believe that the bloodlines between the families are not as strong as they might have been. One official in Washington said: "The White House has been looking at the genealogy for weeks. They have decided it would be better for the President not to make too much of the connection in case it backfires."

Political considerations may also have influenced their thinking. Roslea, which lies close to Co Fermanagh's border with Co Monaghan in the Irish Republic, is in the heart of a fiercely republican area. Irish tricolors hang from telegraph poles and republican slogans are plastered on posters.

The likely cancellation of Mr Clinton's visit to Roslea came as another family claimed links with the President. Bill Patrick, who lives on a loyalist housing estate in Craigavon, Co Armagh, says that his mother, Rachael



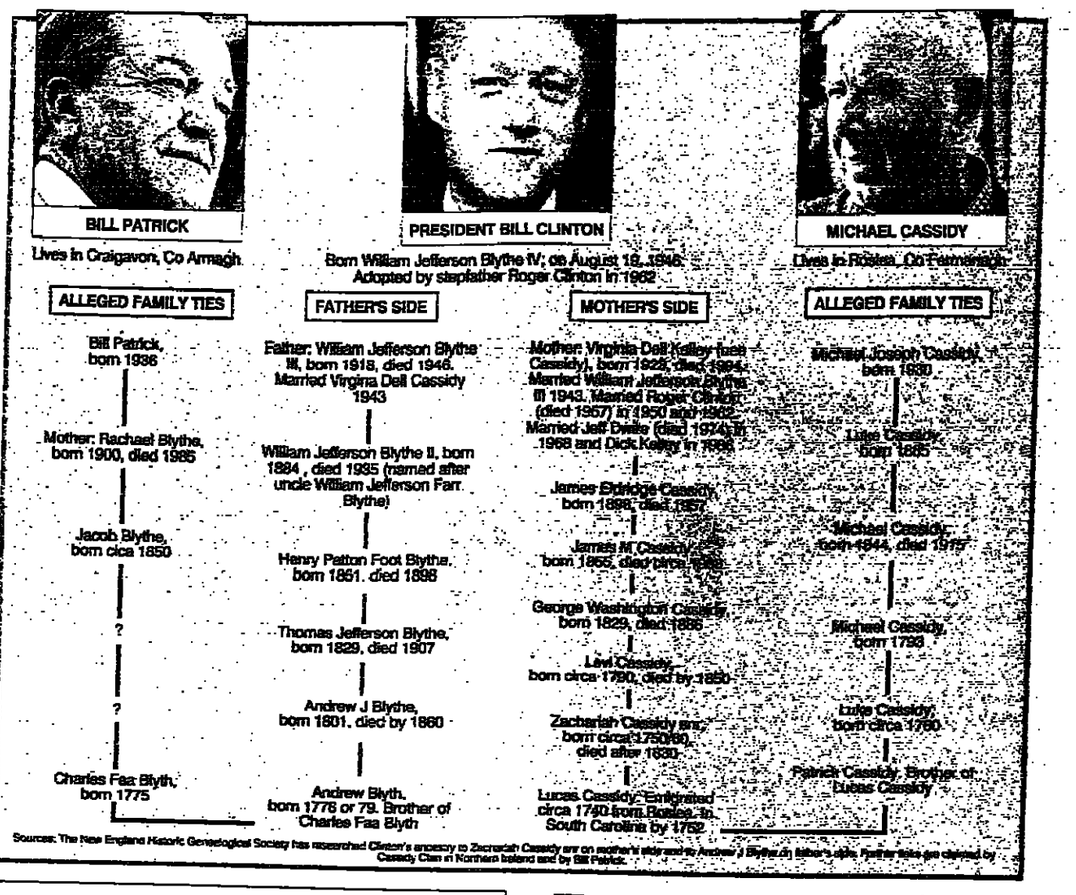
Blythe, was a distant cousin of Mr Clinton, who was born William Jefferson Blythe IV and took the name Clinton from his stepfather.

Mr Patrick's family has contacted White House officials, but a presidential visit to Craigavon has never been considered because, unlike the Cassidys, Mr Patrick has not researched his family tree.

A leading genealogist in Boston, Massachusetts, who compiled Mr Clinton's family tree shortly after his election in 1992, supports the White House's cautious view of the President's Irish ancestry. Andrew Pierce, of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, managed to trace the President's maternal side back to a Zachariah Cassidy senior, who was born around 1750. Mr Pierce is unable to prove claims by the Cassidy clan in Northern Ireland that Zachariah Cassidy's father, Lucas, emigrated to America from Roslea and is an ancestor of Micky Cassidy.

The Cassidy clan is adamant that Micky Cassidy is related to the President and upset that President Clinton may not visit Roslea. Nuala Cassidy-White, the clan's secretary, said: "Every American President who has visited Ireland has visited his family homestead or the area. President Clinton will be doing himself a great disservice if he doesn't visit Fermanagh. We'll lay out the red carpet."

Mr Clinton's stay on November 30 and December 1 will be the first time an American President has visited Northern Ireland and will be followed by a flight to Dublin for a two-day visit to the Republic.



Sources: The New England Historic Genealogical Society has researched Clinton's ancestry to Zachariah Cassidy snr on mother's side and to Andrew J Blythe on father's side. Further links are claimed by Cassidy Clan in Northern Ireland and by Bill Patrick.



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Farmer shuns the limelight

MICKY CASSIDY remains unfazed by the attention that has been lavished on him since the Cassidy clan in Northern Ireland claimed that he was related to President Clinton. The 65-year-old farmer, who lives in a bungalow in Roslea, Co Fermanagh, is too busy tending to his ten cows to bother attending clan meetings.

His 30-acre farm is said to house the Clinton ancestral homestead. The clan claims that a dilapidated cottage, which shelters Mr Cassidy's cattle, was the birthplace of his great great great grand-uncle, Lucas Cassidy, who was the great great great grandfather of the President. The cottage was last inhabited by Micky's uncle John, who died 30 years ago.

Mr Cassidy, a taciturn bachelor, said he would welcome the President to Roslea: "If the President comes I'll meet him." Asked whether his ancestral links had changed him, he said: "Not a bit. I'm just taking it all in my stride. I'll carry on just the same."

It is left to Nuala Cassidy-White, the secretary of the clan, to proclaim the links with the President. After four years' research she is convinced that Mr Clinton's ancestors hail from Roslea. She has sent a clan membership certificate to Mr Clinton and has invited the President to become an honorary chieftain.

Ex-soldier claims best links

BILL PATRICK, who lives on a loyalist housing estate in Craigavon, Co Armagh, is convinced that he has stronger ties to President Clinton than Micky Cassidy.

Although the former British soldier has no proof of a direct link he claims that research by a relative proves that Rachael Blythe, his mother, was a distant cousin of the President. He claims that an ancestor, Charles Faa Blyth, was the brother of Mr Clinton's great great great great grandfather, Andrew Blyth.

Mr Patrick, who has lived in Northern Ireland since being posted there with the Royal Artillery in 1959, said: "It is too fantastic to believe that I am related, but it is true enough.

CASSIDY

PATRICK

The whole publicity has been on the Cassidys, but my links are stronger."

As attention focused on the Cassidy clan, Mr Patrick, 58, a widower, went to Roslea to see Micky Cassidy for a private chat. "But I found him rather distant."

Eileen Blythe, from Co Durham, who has researched the Blythe ancestry, says she knew she was related to Mr Clinton the first time she saw him on television. "When I saw him play the saxophone I knew he was one of us. The Blythes are very creative and musical."

In Roslea, however, they are less impressed by the Blythe claims. Tony McPhillips, an independent nationalist councillor, dismissed Mr Patrick's lack of research.

Dounreay plans to reprocess nuclear waste

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

BRITAIN could become a major centre for reprocessing weapons-grade uranium from research reactors throughout the world. Managers at the Dounreay plant of the Atomic Energy Authority believe that over the next decade they could win contracts worth up to £180 million for reprocessing spent fuel.

Environmentalists and many local authorities have opposed the plan, claiming it will turn Scotland into the world's nuclear dustbin.

A suitable plant exists at Dounreay, in Caithness, site of Britain's fast-breeder reactor development. Now that the Government has withdrawn from fast reactors, Dounreay managers want to offset the estimated £500 million cost of decommissioning by undertaking foreign reprocessing.

The work involves transporting spent fuel to Dounreay to separate uranium, plutonium and waste materials. The Materials Test Reactor plant used for this has been operating for 35 years.

Though smaller in scale, the business is identical to the reprocessing of commercial reactor fuel at Sellafield, Cumbria. The difference is that the fuel going to Dounreay contains highly enriched uranium that could be used to make a bomb. A Dounreay spokesman said: "We have the plant and the people, and we have been doing work of this sort for over 30 years. If we win the contracts it will defray the cost to the taxpayer of decommissioning the fast reactor, and provide better prospects of local employment."

Dounreay has processed foreign fuel in the past and claims the new contracts would not increase radioactive discharges, with the exception of those of the gas krypton-85, which would be "radiologically insignificant".

George Baxter of Friends of the Earth Scotland said: "The people of Scotland have not been consulted about this and they are overwhelmingly against it. We and other environmental groups will make every effort to disrupt the supply routes. I cannot see that they can take the loads up to the North of Scotland by road because most councils in Scotland are totally opposed to this trade."

Dounreay's hopes of winning the business depend largely on decisions taken in Washington, as the fuel for the reactors was provided by the United States under the "Atoms for Peace" programme. As part of these contracts the US retained a veto over ultimate disposal of the fuel and has yet to decide what to do.

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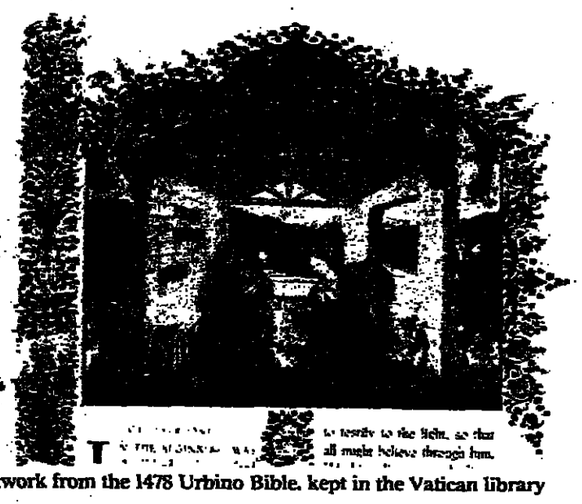
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Ted Turner plans series of books and CD-Roms after buying rights to papal library masterpieces

CNN founder to publish 'Vatican' Bible

By Alexandra Frean
Media Correspondent





The Turner version uses artwork from the 1478 Urbino Bible, kept in the Vatican library

TED TURNER, the American entrepreneur who built his family's billboard business into a film and cable television empire, has found a new multimedia publishing opportunity: the Bible.

Mr Turner, who is married to the actress Jane Fonda, has acquired the exclusive worldwide publishing rights to the contents of the Vatican Library in Rome and is planning a series of books and CD-Roms featuring reproductions of thousands of rarely seen pieces of Renaissance devotional art.

The first in the new Turner line is a 1,312-page limited edition of the Bible, containing hundreds of reproductions of 15th-century illuminated manuscripts. Bound in silk and printed with ink that contains gold, the book goes on sale in the United States this week for $395 (about £250). It will be available in Britain next year.

Michael Reagan, executive vice-president of Turner Publishing, said that the Turner Bible would not compete with traditional biblical publishers which supply churches or seminaries, but was aimed at the family market. "We wanted to create the most beautiful Bible published in modern times. It is aimed at people who want a family heirloom — something they can pass down the generations. I know £250 sounds expensive, but it is less than the cost of a television set. It is like buying a piece of art."

The book is printed on "archival" paper, treated to last hundreds of years, and contains 30 blank pages for people to inscribe family births, marriages and deaths.

The text is the 1990 New Revised Standard Version, which is acceptable to Roman Catholics and many Protestants. The primary source for the illustrations is the Duke of Urbino's 1478 Bible in the Vatican Library which Mr Reagan describes as "the most valuable Bible in the world". He said that the Vatican agreed to the deal to raise money for transferring its card catalogue on to computer.

"The prefect of the library, Father Boyle, wanted to upgrade a new wing and put in computers," he said, adding that since the Turner deal the library had made licencing deals with jewellers and other manufacturers. The Turner Bible will make the library's treasures available to a wider audience. Mr Reagan, who trained at art college and has an interest in Renaissance art, said: "Only certain scholars have access to the Vatican Library at present. When you see these illuminations, it is awesome. You are struck by the thought that a monk, whose name you don't even know, might have spent 20 years on them."

Mr Turner recently sold his company, Turner Broadcasting Systems — which owns the CNN news channel — to Time Warner for £5 billion to create the world's largest media and entertainment group. He is widely credited as having a genius for spotting unexplored markets and has already found other ways of exploiting the full market potential of the Bible.

His broadcasting arm is a co-partner in a £75 million venture to create a screen version of the Old Testament in an epic television production lasting 35 hours. The project is well under way and several episodes have already been screened on American and British television. "Ted is not particularly religious but sometimes opportunities come up and he is the first to see them," Mr Reagan said.



An illuminated manuscript reproduced in the new Bible

Scrabble zealot trounces winner in war of words

By Alan Hamilton

THE loser played *winner* (25 points) but the winner played *zealot* (50 points). David Boys, a 31-year-old psychology student from Montreal, last night became the new world Scrabble champion.

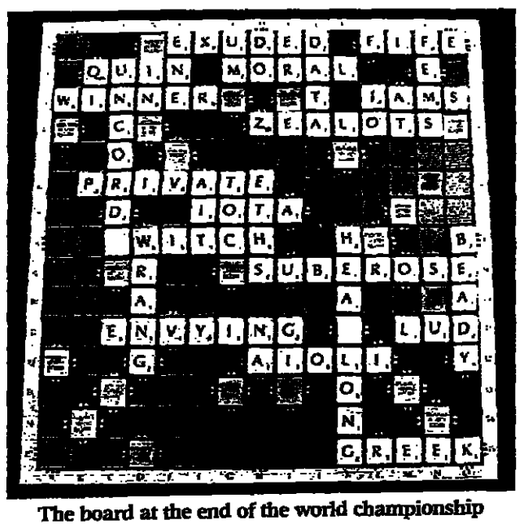
In a tensely fought final at a London hotel, the culmination of three days' word play by 64 contestants, Boys beat the challenger, Joel Sherman of New York, by 437 points to 305. The contest went to five rounds, and the champion confessed that he trained for victory by learning 12,000 new words. He did not necessarily know what they all meant.

England, which invented the language in which the game is usually played, had a poor showing. Mark Nyman from Leeds, the 1993 champion, could manage only 17th place against opposition from North America, Japan, Saudi Arabia and Wales.

The final game went with the Canadian almost from the start. Sherman opened with a *witch* (34), but Boys immediately countered with *uncords* (85). The American was in trouble when, with 60 points to Boys' 126, he offered *twinners*. Adjudicators from Chambers' Dictionary, the Holy Writ of Scrabble, disallowed it. Sherman was shown the linguistic equivalent of the yellow card once more in the closing minutes of the game. Trailing by 272 to 394 he offered *spoker*, a plausible-sounding word but unknown to Chambers. He did, however, have notable success with *suberose*, which earned 69 points.

But Boys was unstoppable. In rapid succession he threw down the tiles of *exude, private, zealot, fife, iota, aioli*, (a garlic sauce, according to Chambers) and *headlong*, which earned 72 points, the highest individual score of the game. At that point, defeated contestants watching progress in another room well away from the ringside were shouting for Boys to play *ladybugs*, but he chose instead *beady*, which earned him 45 points. The game was in the bag. Earlier games in the five-match final threw up words of top-class obscurity. *Auntlier*, meaning acting more like an aunt, is a P G Wodehouse invention, but was permitted.

No recognised Scrabble contest has yet included the word *quizzify* — to cause, to look odd. Given that just one z must be occupied by a blank, there being only one in a Scrabble set, in the right board position, it could accumulate the theoretical maximum of 411 points. But only a zealot would know that.



The board at the end of the world championship

Scotland rugby captain saves fan

By Kathryn Knight

THE Scotland rugby captain Rob Wainwright ran from the field on Saturday to help to save the life of a spectator who suffered a heart attack in the stands.

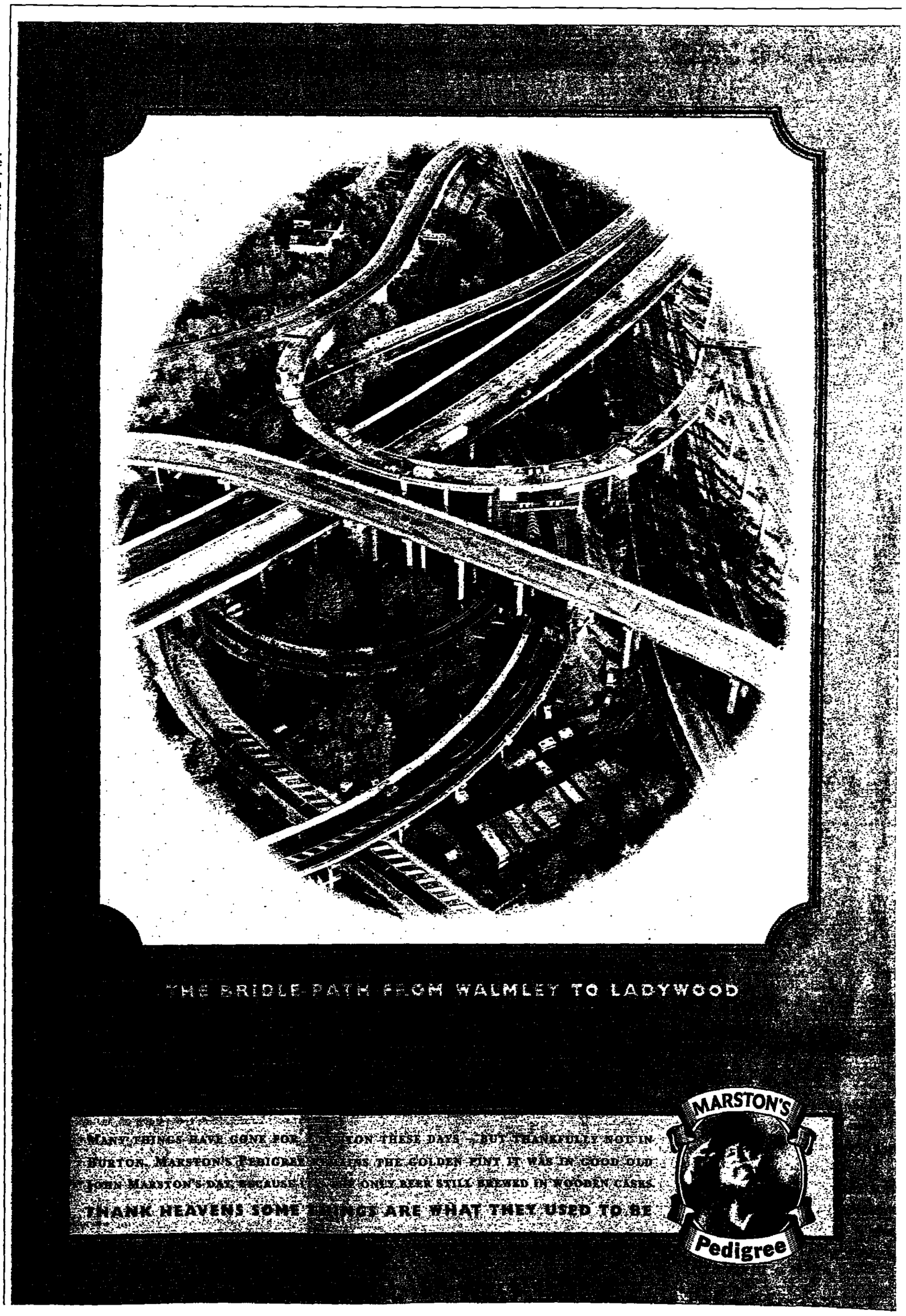
Wainwright, 30, an Army doctor who was appointed captain of Scotland last month, rushed forward after a loudspeaker announcement at the Sudbury ground that a spectator had collapsed in the main stand during the Courage League Division One match between Wasps and West Hartlepool.

With only 12 minutes of the match to go, the West Hartlepool player climbed the stairs and together with Nick Matthews, the team physiotherapist, attended to the victim, who was understood to be a Wasps supporter, and helped to give heart massage. The man, in his 50s and from north London, was revived and taken to Northwick Park Hospital, north London. He was in a critical but stable condition last night.

After a discussion with officials, Chris Harrison, the referee, abandoned the match in respect for the victim. Players from both sides supported the decision.

Wainwright, who has been based at Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire, and is now moving to Edinburgh, has been capped by his country 17 times. Yesterday he said he hoped the man would make a full recovery.

Match report, page 31



Scrap prescription charges, says think-tank

Patients 'should be charged market price for medicines'

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

THE £5.25 prescription charge should be scrapped and NHS patients charged market prices for medicines, a report says today. At least half the drugs prescribed under the NHS are cheaper than £5.25 and most people should have no difficulty paying for medicines out of their own pockets, according to the Institute of Economic Affairs, a free-market think-tank.

The poor, people with chronic illnesses and those requiring expensive drugs would receive financial assistance which could be provided through the existing season-ticket scheme, under which patients can buy a four-month or one-year prepayment certificate. A card currently costs £27.20 for four months and £74.80 for 12 months, which could be issued free to those on income support.

The report, by the economist Professor Duncan Reekie, says that making patients pay the market price for drugs would encourage greater awareness of costs and stimulate competition among drug manufacturers. Older drugs tend to be cheaper than newer ones, as the table shows, and market pricing would encourage patients to discuss with their doctors which drug was most appropriate, making them better informed.

Controls on GP prescribing have encouraged cost-cutting, not cost-effectiveness, Professor Reekie says. He cites the case of a patient with high blood pressure who may be prescribed a cheap diuretic. An example would be frusemide, at £1.45 for a month's supply. If the patient reports no improvement the GP may prescribe a slightly more effective beta blocker. An example would be atenolol, at £3.25 for a month's supply. However, many patients suffer drowsiness and may return to their GP, who might then prescribe an ACE inhibitor, with fewer side-effects. An example would be lisinopril at £11 for a month's supply.

The report says: "The doctor, conscious of his target budget, only prescribes the optimal remedy as a last resort. A patient who was paying personally might well have asked the doctor to explain the options at the first consultation and concluded it was best to go straight for the ACE inhibitor."

Resentment over prescription charges was highlighted by the case of a pharmacist who offered customers the chance to buy NHS-prescribed drugs privately when their cost was lower than £5.25. Allan Sharpe, of Newbridge, Gwent, is appealing against a fine of £550 imposed by the Mid-Glamorgan Family Health Services Authority in September for breach of contract.

A spokesman for the Health Department said the average cost of NHS prescriptions was £8.80 and five out of six items were dispensed free to children, the poor and the elderly. "Government policy is that those who can afford to should contribute to health-care costs through prescription charges. The £310 million raised is reinvested in patient care."

THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

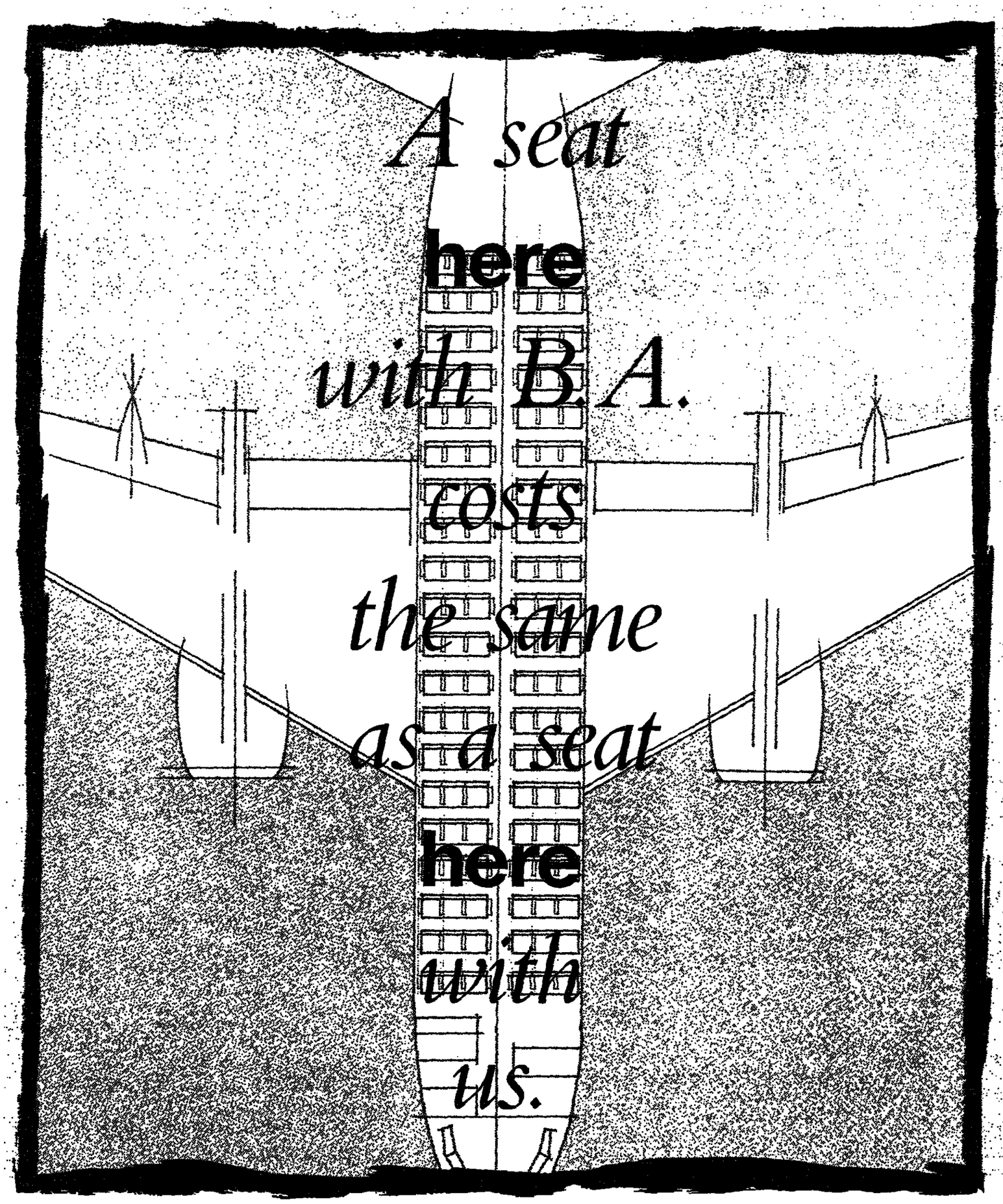
OLDER DRUGS	COURSE	PRICE (£)
Amoxycillin (antibiotic)	7 days	2.20
Amitriptyline (anti-depressant)	1 month	1.40
Prednisolone (steroid tablets for asthma)	1 month	2.50
Propranolol (beta blocker for high blood pressure)	1 month	1.80
Di-hydrocodeine (painkiller)	100 tablets	3.90
NEWER DRUGS	**COURSE**	**PRICE (£)**
Clarithromycin (antibiotic)	7 days	13
Fluoxetine (anti-depressant)	1 month	22
Salmeterol (steroid spray for asthma)	1 month	30
Lisinopril (ACE inhibitor for high blood pressure)	1 month	11
Tramadol (painkiller)	100 tablets	19



Timothy Hurd helping the Queen to toll the 21-tonne bell at the National War Museum in Wellington

Queen stumbles after bellringing challenge

A 12-TONNE bell almost got the better of the Queen yesterday during her second visit to Wellington on her ten-day tour of New Zealand. After dedicating the new carillon bell at the National War Memorial in the name of peace, the Queen, with the assistance of Timothy Hurd, a bellringer, rang it three times. She took the task in her stride but her composure was tested as she stumbled slightly afterwards. Sydney Shep, another bellringer, explained: "At such a weight the bell is a little difficult to ring for one queen." The bronze bell is believed to be the largest tune carillon bell to be made in the past 60 years. It was cast in The Netherlands by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry of east London. Earlier, the Queen had attended a thanksgiving service at St Paul's Cathedral in Wellington.



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Scientist claims 'mad cow' success

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY

A FORMER government scientist claims to have perfected a test for detecting Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease, the human equivalent of the "mad cow" condition, bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

The disease can be confirmed beyond doubt only by post-mortem examination of the brain, but Harash Narang, who worked as a microbiologist with the Public Health Laboratory Service in Newcastle upon Tyne, claims he has developed a way of detecting it in urine.

Dr Narang said he had tested samples from Jean Wake, 38, who died of suspected Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease (CJD) in Sunderland General Hospital on Friday. The hospital has confirmed that it had supplied the samples at her family's request.

"I concentrated the urine and examined it under an electron microscope," Dr Narang said. "The structures peculiar to spongiform encephalopathy, known as scrapie-associated fibrils, were clearly visible." He said he believed the test would work on cattle as well.

Dr Narang lost his job with the Public Health Service Laboratory last year. He claimed he had been sacked because of his belief in a link between bovine spongiform encephalopathy and CJD, but in September of this year an industrial tribunal rejected his claim for unfair dismissal.

GP stands by threat to refuse children

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A DOCTOR is likely to face disciplinary action if he goes ahead with a threat to remove a group of children from his list because their parents' refusal to have them immunised is costing him money.

Dr John Goodall-Copestake has told the parents of eight children at the one-man practice he runs in Presteigne, Powys, that he will have to "strike them off" because he is losing £2,000 a year.

The refusal of the parents to allow vaccination against a range of diseases meant he failed to meet an NHS immunisation target of having 90 per cent of children on his register. As a result, he forfeits a quarterly payment of £500.

Dr Goodall-Copestake, 53, a GP fund-holder, said: "There are another 2,500 patients to be considered and there are bills to be met. I don't deny parents their right to reject immunisation, but ... I have to put in a business plan each year and I am not planning to lose £2,000."

Dr Goodall-Copestake, the only GP in the town, has been called in for talks with the Powys Family Health Service Authority amid parents' allegations of blackmail. He is likely to face disciplinary action from the General Medical Council if he does not relent.

The Health Department said: "Treating patients in purely economic terms is unacceptable behaviour and one we wish to see discouraged."

Lords hear case for herbal medicine

MEDICAL BRIEFING

TODAY an appeal is launched in the Lords by dermatologists at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, to fund research into Chinese herbal medicine which, although used for thousands of years to treat skin troubles, is little understood.

Herbal medicine has always had an honoured place in mainstream medicine and, at the Royal Free, research will not only investigate the use of herbs in the treatment of skin diseases but, because of their proven immunosuppressant powers, their effect on diseases including psoriasis, rhumatoid arthritis and inflammatory bowel disease.

Research has shown that the use of extracts of yew tree leaves in the treatment of malignant disease is likely to become one of the medical success stories of the decade.

The Royal Free dermatologists have shown that Chinese medicine works, but how it works, which herbs do what and how the active ingredients can be isolated and utilised, still need scientific analysis. At the Royal Free adults and children whose lives are made a misery by eczema have responded to Chinese herbs, often after they had failed to get better with the most powerful immunosuppressant drugs.

Chinese herbal medicine can cause trouble particularly if incorrectly extracted or if the plants have been wrongly identified. Vigilance coupled with checks on the patient's biochemistry are essential.

The Royal Free doctors have demonstrated that the many herbs used in what can appear a haphazard way do have different actions and enable the herbalist to individualise treatment. The hospital needs scientists to identify the numerous chemical constituents of the herbs, pharmacologists to study their extraction and action and possible side effects, and Chinese advisers on how to devise the best mix for a particular patient.

The charitable foundation of the Royal Free, Dermatrust, will not only devote its time and money to Chinese herbal medicine but is already supporting studies that seek to find ways of improving the use of lasers in removing birth marks, and new treatments for skin cancer.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

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Full text of Sir Arthur Harris's secret dispatch details the destruction of German cities

Official record of Bomber Command is published at last

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

THE full text of Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris's own account of the destruction of Germany's industrial cities in the last three years of the Second World War is published for the first time this week.

Not a word of regret appears. The commander-in-chief of Bomber Command wrote in his *Despatch on War Operations* that the heavy bombers "did more than any other single weapon to win this war".

Historians have been allowed for 20 years to dip into the files at the Public Record Office in Kew, but this is the first time the complete text by the Air Chief Marshal, including graphic charts and technical assessments, has been made available.

Sir Arthur produced an autobiographical account of the war called *Bomber Offensive* which, it is now clear, drew on the material in his secret dispatch. Much of the statistical and technical detail was excluded.

Two historians, a Briton and a German, give their assessment of Sir Arthur in the published version of the formerly secret official report, *Sir Arthur T Harris, Despatch on War Operations* (Frank Cass, £35). Horst Boog, recently retired as senior director of research at the German Armed Forces Military History Office, goes out of his way to acquit Sir Arthur of the charge of war crimes.

Dr Boog, who is writing the official volume relating to the air defence of Germany, said Sir Arthur was acting "on orders from above" — orders approved and sometimes even initiated by Churchill and sanctioned, though with growing reservations, by the Air Staff, the Chiefs and the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

The published dispatch shows that Sir Arthur argued with Churchill and Whitehall over the best way to use Bomber Command. It also gives details of problems faced by aircrews in unheated turrets trying to defend themselves against night fighters.

Dr Boog says that if the Holocaust and the bombing of civilians in the so-called "area offensive" could be compared for being unethical, there was one conspicuous difference, apart from the differences in scale and intention: "The bombing of cities under German fire required courage, while driving helpless concentration camp inmates into the gas chambers did not."

The appendices to the dispatch cover everything from gunsights to Pathfinder Squadrons, radar developments to the effectiveness of different bombs. In the section called *Statistics and Graphics*, Sir Arthur noted that in 1942, when he took up his new appointment, more than 20 tons of bombs were required to "devastate" an acre of industrialised territory but that this fell to eight tons per acre at the end of 1943, after the heavy and successful battle of Hamburg. In a chart, Sir Arthur detailed the cities that suffered the greatest acreage of destruction. Of the 70 cities attacked by Bomber Command, 46 were "approximately" half-destroyed, and of these 23 were more than 60 per cent destroyed "in terms of built-up area".

In the raids on Dresden, 1,681 acres were destroyed, including 59 per cent of the built-up area. In Hamburg, 6,200 acres were destroyed, including 75 per cent of the built-up area.

Sir Arthur was under pressure to attack Berlin in 1942 but complained in the dispatch that he had only 70 to 80 Lancaster bombers available. He wrote: "I had refused to attack Berlin in 1942 because I considered that I had not enough heavy bombers to achieve the concentration necessary to saturate its defences. In practice, even in 1943, the strength of the force was insufficient."

Sir Arthur concluded the main section of his dispatch by predicting that although the next war would be "vastly different from the one which has just drawn to a close", the same principles would apply. "The quickest way of winning the war will still be to devastate the enemy's industry and thus destroy his war potential."

Sir Arthur, who died in 1984, had no doubt that if the Germans had won the war, he would have been tried as a war criminal. Sebastian Cox, deputy head of the Air Historical Branch at the Ministry of Defence, who wrote the introduction and preface to the published dispatch, said Sir Arthur believed that some in the post-war Labour Government considered he should have been tried in any case.

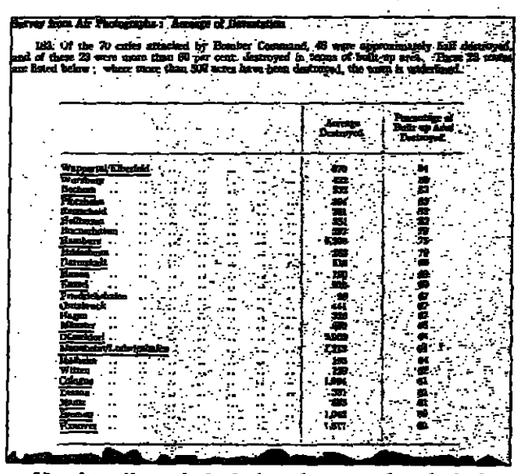
However, Mr Cox said Sir Arthur was convinced that the bomber offensive was "necessary, right and overwhelmingly effective".

Sir Arthur wrote: "The ultimate aim of the attack on a town is to break the morale of the population which occupies it. The immediate aim is, therefore, twofold, namely, to produce (1) destruction, and (2) the fear of death."



Harris said the Lancasters that destroyed Dresden "did more than any other single weapon to win this war"





Harris's dispatch includes charts and technical assessments that have never been available before



Sir Arthur Harris selecting bombing targets

Tribute to 'brave' Marti Caine

The husband of Marti Caine, the comedy actress and singer who died of lymphatic cancer at the weekend aged 50, paid tribute yesterday to her fortitude and never-failing humour. Ken Ives, 54, her second husband, said that her last words as she gazed out of the window at their home near Watlington, Oxfordshire, surrounded by her family and best friend, were: "What a lovely sky."

He said: "She was lively, humorous and on the ball right until the end. Marti was simply the most extraordinary and brave woman I have ever met." Her funeral will be held in her native Sheffield in two weeks' time.

Obituary, page 21

Coolers saved

Liverpool City Council has dropped plans to auction two Regency wine coolers after protests from heritage bodies. The Labour-controlled council, faced with a deficit of £60 million, had hoped to raise between £50,000 and £70,000 by selling the items from the town hall.

Baby goes home

A boy who weighed 1lb 1oz when he was born three months prematurely in May is to be allowed to go home. Boyden and Sarah Manns, of Hucclecote, Gloucester, have been given clearance to take Blair, now 6 lb 10 oz, home from Southmead Hospital, Bristol, tomorrow.

Help for victims

Relatives of murder and manslaughter victims are offered a new source of advice in a Home Office information pack covering emotional problems, information on the criminal justice system, how offenders' release dates are fixed, and details of helpful organisations.

Ferry blade theft

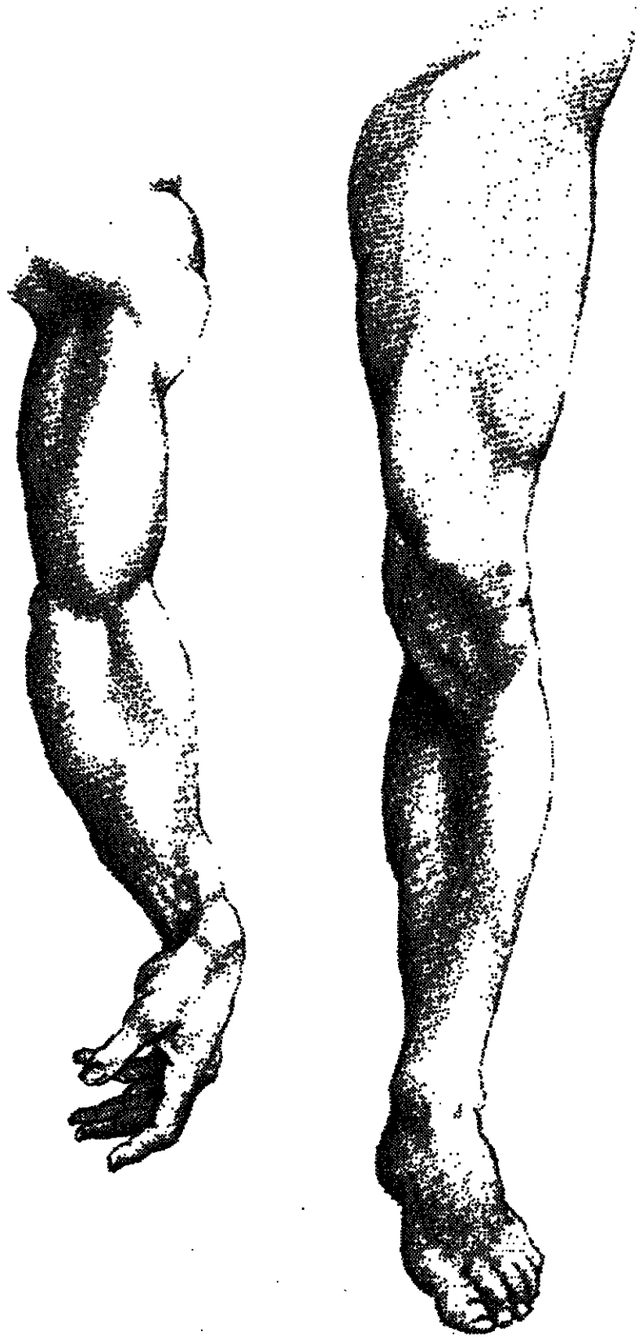
Four bronze propellor blades weighing two tonnes and made for cross-channel ferries have been stolen from Stephenson Engineering in Wrecclesham, Surrey. Police said the £20,000 blades could not be sold to ferry companies and would be worth only £2,000 as scrap.

Winter visitors

Blackcaps from Germany are crossing the North Sea to winter in this country rather than migrating to the Mediterranean, the British Trust for Ornithology reports. Fifty years ago there were only a handful of winter blackcaps. There may now be 10,000.

Nature notes, page 20

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Tribute to 'brave' Marti Caine

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Obituary, page

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Help for victims

Relatives of murder a
manslaughter victims are
denied a new source of adv
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probation, prison and
criminal justice system
offenders' release dates a
future, and details of help
organisations.

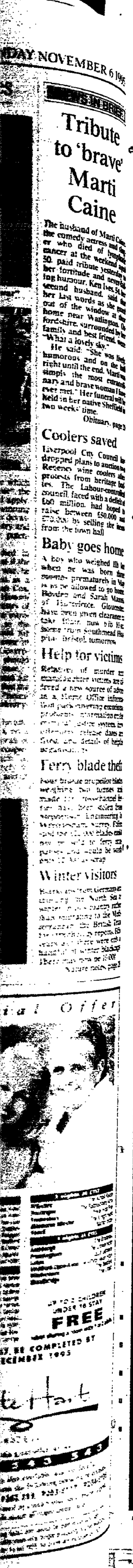
Ferry blade theft

Four bronze propeller blade
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Winter visitors

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Nature notes, page



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Bomb suspect seeks asylum in Britain

BY STEWART TENDLER, MICHAEL EVANS AND BEN MACINTYRE

ONE of two Algerians being questioned by police in London in connection with recent terrorist bombings in Paris is seeking political asylum in Britain. Abdelkadir Benouif, a long-term resident in Britain who was arrested on Saturday, has been turned down for asylum but has appealed and his case is being examined.

Benouif and the other dissident Algerian were being held yesterday at the top-security Paddington Green police station under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. The police can detain them for two days but can apply to the Home Secretary for a further five days. French anti-terrorist police arrived in London yesterday to question the men who were arrested by Scotland Yard over the Paris bombing campaign. One has been identified as the suspected mastermind behind the attacks.

A French magistrate investigating the bombings is also expected in London and France may begin extradition proceedings. Other Algerians living in London were believed to be under police questioning last night. Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, said: "We co-operate with everyone in the world who has something to say about terrorism. We want the terrorists or potential terrorists to believe that although we may be an open democracy, one of the longest established in the world, we are not a soft target."

Although suspected members of Algeria's Armed Islamic Group (GIA), the main opponents to the country's military government, have been under surveillance by Special Branch and MI5 officers for some time, it is understood there has been no evidence of criminal activity.

In contrast to last week's jubilation over the arrests of 10 suspected terrorists in France, the news that Benouif and another man had been arrested was greeted with a resounding silence from officials and police in Paris. French police were reportedly "surprised and a little annoyed" that the British authorities had made the arrests before extradition orders had been prepared in France.

In a reference to France's failure to secure the extradition last month of Abdelkrim Deneche, a suspected terrorist, from Sweden, one French police source told the newspaper *Le Journal du Dimanche*: "We would dearly like not to repeat the Deneche precedent and to have time to prepare our extradition papers. There are still investigations going on in Great Britain."

Scotland Yard sources confirmed last week that Benouif had been under surveillance for several months and London may have felt compelled to arrest him promptly after French news leaks naming him as a prime suspect. The second man arrested in London has been identified as Farouk Deneche, brother of Abdelkrim Deneche.

Last Wednesday police in Paris arrested Boualem Bensaid, described as Benouif's principal guerilla "lieutenant". Bensaid had called the mobile telephone number of Benouif to report on the terrorist campaign, according to the French police. Benouif has been a refugee in London since 1993 and is reported to be a close associate of Djamel Zitouni, the head of the GIA.

Blair wants welfare overhaul to 'think the unthinkable'

BY JILL SHERMAN AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

TONY BLAIR has ordered his senior colleagues to draw up proposals for a radical overhaul of the welfare state in time for an early general election.

He has told Chris Smith, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, to "think the unthinkable" and produce a comprehensive blueprint within six months. The Labour leader has decided that welfare reform is an area where his party should be more radical than the Tories and considers it his priority between now and the general election.

Mr Blair has advised Mr Smith, a moderniser, to go back to the drawing board and effectively ignore proposals recommended by the Social Justice Commission, many of which he regards as too cautious. He has also told the social security team to work more closely with other shadow departments to devise a co-ordinated policy on the family, which should be reflected in any social welfare decisions.

In addition Mr Blair is keen quickly to draw up proposals to help with nursing home costs. He fears that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, will seize the initiative by announcing a package of help in the Budget, exposing a glaring hole in Labour policy.

Mr Smith is re-examining a range of policy ideas, including an ambitious plan to integrate the tax and benefit system that was rejected by the Social Justice Commission, targeting child benefit more effectively, pension reforms, a minimum citizen's income for those in and out of work, housing benefit reforms, and welfare-to-work schemes for lone parents.

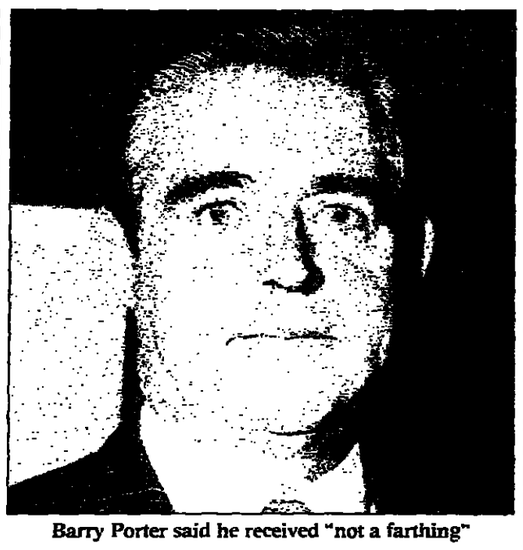
The Social Justice Commission, established by John Smith in 1992 to review social policy, produced a lengthy report that looked at many of these issues shortly after Mr Blair was elected Labour leader last year. Mr Blair said at the time that he would cherry-pick from the proposals but he has made clear that he wants to start afresh. "The Social Justice Commission was good on analysis but poor on proposals," one senior Labour source said yesterday.

Donald Dewar, the former Shadow Social Security Secretary, started looking at the proposals on pensions but his time has mainly been taken up over the past 16 months fighting three social security Bills. Mr Smith, promoted to his post three weeks ago when Mr Dewar became Chief Whip, has set up regular seminars for his team where academics and social security experts can discuss a range of revolutionary ideas.

Mr Smith told his team that the reforms should not result in a net cost to the Exchequer. But he has made clear that in order to help some needy groups, painful decisions may have to be taken to cut back other areas.

Child benefit is one of the welfare payments under review. The Labour leader is attracted to the idea of taxing the payment for higher earners, which would raise £300 million, but Mr Smith is exploring other ways of targeting the benefit. He agrees that the wealthiest couples should not continue to receive the payment but points out that taxing it presents huge administrative difficulties, largely because of the system of independent taxation.

Labour will ask local authorities today to volunteer to try out party initiatives that are designed to improve performance. David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, wants to start a number of trial projects, in which councils will be asked to choose at least two measures from the half dozen on Labour's recipe for school success. Mr Blunkett said Labour wanted to work with councils on new ways for following up on school inspections, taking rapid remedial action where a school is said to be failing.



Barry Porter said he received "not a farthing"

MPs deny getting paid as consultants

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

A TORY MP denied yesterday that he behaved improperly in agreeing to arrange meetings with ministers in exchange for a consultancy fee. Barry Porter, 56, MP for Wirral South, said he had received "not a farthing" for negotiating approaches to ministers on behalf of a fictitious company.

The revelations came on the eve of this evening's Commons vote on the Nolan committee's recommendations on MPs' outside interests.

Mr Porter was due to meet a lobbyist tomorrow about a possible approach to a minister. "If it had taken place I would have declared it in the Members' Register of Interests," he said.

A second Conservative MP denied receiving a payment for consultancy services from Mohamed Al Fayed, the chairman of Harrods. Sir Andrew Bowden, MP for Brighton Kemp Town, said that at the height of the Al Fayeds' battle with Lonrho for control of the Knightsbridge store, Mr Al Fayed had wanted to see a constituent of Sir Andrew's who had worked for Lonrho. Sir Andrew said: "[Payment] could have been handed to me, but if it was I don't recall anything at all."

Tories' Nolan setback, page 1

Divorce reform secures Major's backing

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Lord Chancellor appears to have won the battle to get his divorce law reform Bill into the Government's programme for the next session of Parliament.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern has secured the backing of the Prime Minister to press on with a measure about which many Conservative MPs, party business managers and ministers have reservations because of their fears that making divorce easier will undermine the Tories' reputation as the party of the family.

In return, the Lord Chancellor is understood to have given firm commitments to his Cabinet colleagues that he will be prepared to undertake serious amendments as the Bill goes through Parliament. Mr Major has also agreed that Conservative MPs should be given a free vote on the issue.

The move to press ahead is expected to be confirmed by a meeting of the Government's business managers today. A Cabinet meeting planned for today, which would have discussed the Bill, has been cancelled because of the Prime Minister's visit to Israel for the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin and because there is now no longer a need for another meeting on public spending.

The issues left outstanding after Thursday's Cabinet meeting — notably a dispute between Virgina Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, and the Treasury over her budget — have been settled during talks in the last three days. According to Whitehall sources, only a few minor details remain to be settled.

Lord Mackay will include in his Bill all the main proposals from the White Paper which was seen as heralding the biggest shake-up in divorce for 25 years. They will include the creation of "no fault" divorces and the reduction in the maxium waiting period for divorce from five years to one. These proposals could be subjected to concerted attempts at amendment.

Lord Mackay was forced last week to drop his Bill to give cohabitees the same legal safeguards as married women against violence in the home in a move that was portrayed as a retreat in the face of pressure from the Tory moralist Right. The Prime Minister wants to avoid a similar outcry over the divorce Bill. But senior ministers say it will face a difficult passage.

Leading article, page 19

Heseltine to fight for centre ground

BY PHILIP WEBSTER

MICHAEL HESELTINE pledged yesterday to fight alongside John Major for the cause of One Nation Conservatism after a series of attacks by Tory leftwingers on the activities of the Right.

Amid signs of a new ideological battle starting as the Tories fail to improve on their dismal standing in the polls, the Deputy Prime Minister made his declaration after Sir Edward Heath claimed that the Right was trying to hijack the party and suggested that rightwingers such as Michael Portillo might be removed from the Cabinet.

At the same time David Hunt, who left the Cabinet in the last reshuffle, said that while some extreme right-wing statements were interesting to argue about, "they are not in the real world".

Sir Edward, interviewed on BBC Radio, said it was time to speak out for the One Nation vision. The leadership had tried to avoid giving an impression of disunity. But the public saw it as a minority group running the show.

Mr Heseltine said on *The World This Weekend*: "Nothing will shake our passionate advocacy of political priorities that serve the interests of the nation at large."

Trend gets top job at Tory HQ

The Tory party chairman Brian Mawhinney is giving a substantial new role to his deputy Michael Trend in changes at Central Office to be unveiled today. Mr Trend, MP for Windsor and Maidenhead, will be in charge of the HQ's day-to-day running after Mr Mawhinney's decision to remove Paul Judge, the multi-millionaire recruited three years ago to be party director general. Mr Trend will, in effect, be Mr Mawhinney's "chief executive", Tory sources said. Mr Judge, the subject of increasing criticism from HQ insiders, is leaving of his own accord.

Police angered by Somerville reports



Sir Paul Condon, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, is considering setting up an inquiry into how the media learned that Julia Somerville, the ITN newsreader, was being questioned over pictures of a naked child. Speaking on ITV's *Crosstalk* programme he said the coverage in tabloid newspapers had "saddened and distressed" him. Ms Somerville, right, is scheduled to read the 12.30pm broadcast today, an ITN spokesman said. Sir Paul said newspapers had been warned against identification of individuals in the case because legislation prohibited publication of material that would make it possible to identify a young victim. Sir Paul said the advice from Scotland Yard had been ignored.

Ms Somerville and her partner Jeremy Dixon, 56, were released on police bail until next month after photographs were passed to police by staff developing them for a central London chemist's last week. Officers from the Yard's paedophile squad questioned the couple.

Council defies Blair

The rebel Labour leadership of Walsall council has appointed five "corporate board directors" to take over management of all the borough's services in defiance of the wishes of Tony Blair. Dave Church, the council leader, plans to decentralise the town hall and create 54 neighbourhood offices to run council services. Three of the new directors are already on council staff.

MP bails out Mansell

Nigel Mansell was saved by a Tory MP yesterday after breaking down in the London to Brighton veteran car run. Mansell was driving a 1903 Daimler when it overheated outside the home of Sir Andrew Bowden, MP for Brighton Kemptown, who dashed out with a watering can. The oldest car taking part, an 1893 Benz, was one of a record 392 from 423 entrants that completed the 58-mile run.

Sealink sails into history

The Sealink name will be only history by the year's end, because it is too closely associated with the "orange plastic and greasy chip" image of Seventies' cross-Channel travel. From today, ships will begin sailing under the name Stena Line. The leading ferry operator between Britain and the Continent and Ireland until the Eighties, Sealink was a British, French and Belgian state-owned railways venture.

Army firefighters busy

Soldiers standing in for striking fire crews in Liverpool tackled 215 blazes in 24 hours on the eve of bonfire night. Police said arsonists may have used Saturday night to take advantage of the reduced cover during such a busy period. Welsh Guardsmen in a fleet of 24 "Green Goddess" Bedford lorries attended 100 more calls than on November 4 last year.

BP seeks to own green

BP has applied to have the shade of green that adorns its 15,000 petrol stations and petrol tankers registered as a legal trademark. The oil company, which has garages in 70 countries, is the first to attempt to copywrite a colour under the new Trademarks Act. If the application is successful it will give the company exclusive rights to use "BP green", better known as pantone 348C.

Yachtsman survives

A British yachtsman survived when his catamaran capsized in heavy seas by clinging for more than an hour to the upturned vessel in heavy seas. Richard Charrington, 34, from London, was on deck and thrown clear when a wave threw the catamaran *Bayete* 20ft into the air 150 miles off Marseilles. His four French crewmates were resting below deck. Two are dead and two missing presumed drowned.

Jail key finders praised

Prison officers who discovered the impressions of two master keys hidden in a pie at Parkhurst jail on the Isle of Wight were described as "very vigilant" yesterday by the Prison Service. The pie was found behind a wall grille during a routine search at the prison that is home to some of the country's most dangerous criminals. The prison now faces a £100,000 bill to change locks.

Oasis fans treated

Scores of over-excited teenagers collapsed from emotional exhaustion at the sight of their heroes Oasis when the rock band performed at Earl's Court in London on Saturday night. At least 60 fans were treated by St John Ambulance staff. Others had to be plucked from the crowd by security staff as fans pushed forward against barriers to get a closer look at the five-man group. David Sinclair, page 14

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End to old-boy network demanded

Barristers' equality code aims to stop race and sex bias

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

AN EQUALITY code for the Bar, the most comprehensive and politically correct to be issued to any profession, will be sent to 8,500 barristers in England and Wales in the next few days.

The code, the result of three years' debate, has been drawn up in an effort to stamp out racial and sexual discrimination and sexual harassment and to rid the profession of the "old boy network".

Barristers are advised on how to avoid needless physical contact, suggestive remarks and looks or "demands for sexual favours in return for career advancement". When selecting trainee barristers, they are urged not just to rely on academic excellence but to follow rigorous interview procedures to guard against "recruiting in one's own image" or influencing an interview on the basis of "gut feeling".

The detailed guidance, which barristers must have regard to as part of their code of conduct, has aroused criticism in the profession's more traditional quarters. But it has been unanimously approved by the leadership of the Bar Council.

In one of its more controversial annexes, the code cautions chambers when selecting recruits against reliance on high A-level results, as those might be "indirectly discriminatory" to mature women and ethnic minorities, who might be late entrants. The annexe says: "Class of degree alone should not be regarded as a good indicator of likely success in practice. Chambers should be prepared to consider a range of intellectual ability criteria for assessing potential."

Chambers are advised not to insist upon students from Oxford or Cambridge. Ethnic-minority students go predominantly to the new universities, it says.

Chambers must also avoid personal questions on topics such as marriage, the applicant's plans for a family or a spouse's job; how the applicant would deal with male (if women) or white (if black) clients; or how (if gay) whether they intend to be open or not with their sexuality when dealing with solicitors or clients.

The code has provoked criticism within the Inns of Court because of its breadth: it goes beyond the statutory bans on discrimination on grounds of race or sex to cover disability, sexual leaning and religion.

It ranges from allocation of briefs to maternity leave, ethnic and sexual monitoring to complaints procedures and counselling. Procedures to tackle sexual harassment include formal channels of complaints, a telephone hotline and a mediation unit where a senior barrister will advise complainant and victim.

Chambers are urged to monitor all selection decisions as well as how they hand out briefs. Where under-representation of a group is discovered, the code says: "Chambers should consider the use of the positive action provisions of the Race Relations and Sex Discrimination Acts to increase the rate of applications from under-represented groups."

Peter Goldsmith, QC, chairman of the Bar, said the Bar risked compromising its own status and its own future if it allowed discriminatory practices or assumptions to stand in the way of open and fair selection and treatment.

Law, page 36



Goldsmith: says certain assumptions must go

The Times starts continental printing

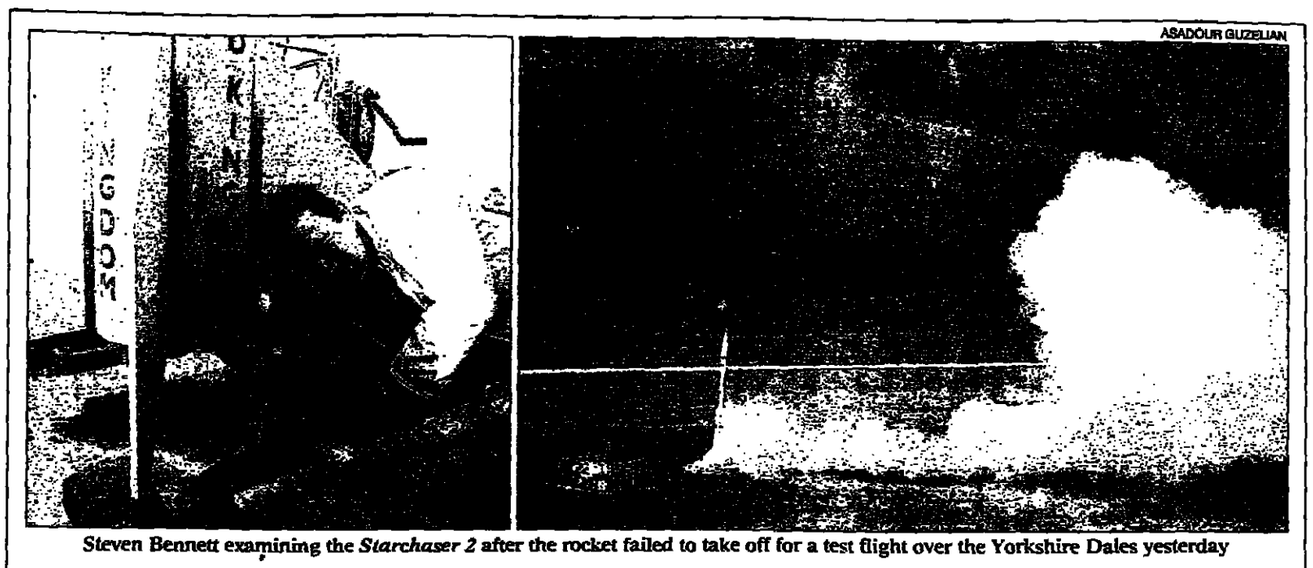
BY GEORGE BROCK, EUROPEAN EDITOR

FOR the first time in its 210-year history, *The Times* today starts regular printing in continental Europe. Last night 20,000 copies were printed at a plant near Charleroi in Belgium and delivered in time for breakfast to cities such as Brussels, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Paris and Milan.

The continental print run is intended to meet demand for early copies; until today *The Times* has not normally reached many continental newsagents until mid-morning. The paper will offer subscriptions for home delivery early next year. Peter Stothard, the Editor, said the move was a natural extension of expanded British circulation. "I look forward to welcoming thousands of new continental readers and to serving better our increased British readership, whether on business or holiday."

The edition will be unchanged from the second edition on sale in Britain. It will carry European football results, full British sport and more up-to-date news.

Leading article, page 19



ASADOUR GUZELIAN

Steven Bennett examining the *Starchaser 2* after the rocket failed to take off for a test flight over the Yorkshire Dales yesterday

Yorkshire space programme fails to lift off

BY PAUL WILKINSON

THOSE people who lit the blue touch-paper last night only to see the rocket fizzle out will sympathise with Steven Bennett. His efforts to become the first amateur to put a rocket into space suffered a similar setback.

But Mr Bennett, a Mancunian with a passion for *Star Trek* and rocketry, was not downhearted and took yesterday's failure with a degree of stoicism. "It's a bit of a disappointment, a glitch, but at least the rocket has not blown up or crashed in pieces," he said as he surveyed the small scorch-mark on the launchpad — a field in the Yorkshire Dales — that indicated the failed firing of *Starchaser 2*. "It's just a benign malfunction of the motor."

Mr Bennett, 31, aims to be the first private citizen to run a successful space programme. He is involved in a serious space race with a Florida postman, a retired soldier in California and a team of enthusiasts from Adelaide, Australia. Yesterday's firing was to prove his rocket's motor and parachute system.

The test, in front of television crews from America and Japan, ended in anticlimax and a puff of grey smoke as the 21ft rocket, built in his garage, failed to ignite properly and stayed firmly on its paving slabs.

A hired van and a borrowed scaffolding tower set up in the corner of a field at Coniston Cold, near Skipton, North Yorkshire, provided the support equipment and mission control. As Mr Bennett and his team crouched behind a drystone wall, his wife Adrienne told the world's assembled press: "If it goes wrong and it crashes, don't turn your back on the rocket and run. Watch to see where it is coming down and change your position accordingly."

In the event, the 300 onlookers who joined 100 media representatives did not even have to turn their heads.

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Murder case puts postwar France in dock

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRANCE will confront its wartime past today when Christian Didier goes on trial for the murder of René Bousquet, the former Vichy regime chief of police, who sent thousands of Jews to their deaths in concentration camps.

M Didier, a failed novelist and unemployed chauffeur, claimed that he had struck a blow against evil on June 8, 1993, when he shot Bousquet dead in his Paris flat two weeks before the 84-year-old was due to stand trial for crimes against humanity.

The Nazi collaborator's death caused outrage among Jewish groups and historians who felt justice had been cheated. Others, however, were quietly relieved that France had apparently escaped another painful examination of the darkest period in its history.

M Didier, 51, is not the only man in the dock this week, however. His lawyers have vowed to use the Paris trial to expose not only Bousquet's crimes but the French legal system that allowed him to go untried and unpunished for so long.

The facts are not in dispute. After tricking Bousquet into opening the door of his elegant Paris flat, M Didier shot him four times before returning to his hotel and summoning television cameras. "I could not stand to see that piece of filth walking around with a smile on his face. I had been hearing for years about how René Bousquet was going to be tried for his wartime crimes and yet this trial never took place," M Didier said. Then the police arrested him.

In court this week, defence lawyers will continue to insist it was "a crime of patriotism" motivated by frustration at the postwar legal system.

Andreotti to face trial over killing of journalist

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

GIULIO ANDREOTTI, the former Italian Prime Minister already on trial for alleged membership of the Mafia, was indicted yesterday on new charges of ordering the murder in 1979 of an investigative journalist, Mino Pecorelli.

Judge Sergio Materia, a magistrate in Perugia, ordered Signor Andreotti to stand trial on February 2, together with one of his close aides, Claudio Vitalone, a former Overseas Trade Minister. Both are accused of ordering the murder on March 20, 1979, allegedly to stop Signor Pecorelli from blackmailing them through the pages of his scurrilous newspaper, *Osservatore Politico*.

Also indicted were two Mafia bosses, Pippo Calo and Gaetano Badalamenti, and Michelangelo La Barbera, one of the two gunmen accused of shooting the reporter.

The case against the former Prime Minister rests largely on the word of the Mafia supergrass, Tommaso Buscetta. He says the murder was ordered by Signor Andreotti because Signor Pecorelli obtained the text of damaging statements about the former Prime Minister made by Aldo Moro, another Christian Democrat leader, during interrogation by the Red Brigades terrorist gang who kidnappd and murdered Signor Moro in 1978.



Andreotti: already on trial for Mafia dealings

Investigators believe Signor Pecorelli obtained the "Moro memorandum" from General Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, the crime-fighter killed by the Mafia in 1982.

"Pecorelli was killed because he had obtained secrets that Dalla Chiesa also knew about the Moro crime," Buscetta said.

Signor Andreotti has protested his innocence. His indictment comes as his separate trial in Palermo continues on charges that he was a member of Cosa Nostra, responsible for protecting the Sicilian criminal gang during a career in which he was Prime Minister seven times.

"The prosecution has not succeeded in finding any proof of the declarations," said Odoardo Ascari, Signor Andreotti's lawyer.

Signor Pecorelli had close links to the Italian intelligence services and specialised in blackmailing politicians for money to avoid publication of scandalous articles. A cover story he had prepared for his newspaper about Signor Andreotti, entitled "The Prime Minister's Cheques", was not published after Signor Pecorelli received a payment worth £20,000 at the request of Franco Evangelisti, another aide of the former Prime Minister.

According to one of Signor Pecorelli's journalists, Renato Corsini, the article contained proof of a financial relationship between Signor Andreotti and a secret service agent suspected of involvement in right-wing terrorism.

A former neo-fascist terrorist, Massimo Carminati, will also be tried in February on charges of being the second gunman in the murder of the reporter. Carminati belonged to the Rome crime gang known as the Magliana Band.

The hearing of the indictment request was attended by Signor Pecorelli's son, Andrea. "We want justice and we expect justice from this trial," he said.



People in Sarajevo queue in the cold yesterday to send letters and gifts to relatives and friends in Gorazde, the formerly besieged enclave to which the UN opened a supply route last month. Hundreds waited for hours to mail their presents

Chernomyrdin retreats on takeover of security

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

THE Russian Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, made a sharp retreat at the weekend from his declaration that he was taking charge of national security policy while President Yeltsin was in hospital.

Mr Chernomyrdin said he was misinterpreted over comments on Friday when he said Mr Yeltsin was "partially relieved" of control of the "power ministries" responsible for security and the Foreign Ministry due to illness.

"This is an absolutely erroneous interpretation because we did not talk of transferring authority," the Prime Minister said. "One can speak only about increasing my working schedule due to the President's illness, and nothing else."

The denial brought into the open a tussle for power between the Prime Minister, the President's constitutional heir, and Mr Yeltsin's Kremlin entourage, in particular his security chief, Aleksandr Korzhakov, and his chief aide, Viktor Ilyushin.

Mr Yeltsin has managed to keep the formal trappings of power, including the "nuclear suitcase", but Mr Chernomyrdin is behaving more like an acting head of state. He is going to Israel today to attend Yitzhak Rabin's funeral. Mr Yeltsin's spokesman, Sergei Medvedev, repeated on Saturday that his boss was still in charge, with an implied rebuke to Mr Chernomyrdin.

"The President has not turned over his powers to anyone while he has been ill," he said. "Nor was that possibility raised during Friday's conservation between Yeltsin and Chernomyrdin in the central clinical hospital."

The Defence Minister, Pavel Grachev, also pledged loyalty to Mr Yeltsin and said he was "directly subordinate" to the President.

According to one Kremlin source, a two-month security regime has been imposed on the central clinical hospital. That suggests that doctors expect the President to stay in hospital until after polling day in the parliamentary elections on December 17.

The Supreme Court, on Saturday overruled a ban on the liberal movement Yabloko imposed by the Central Electoral Commission. Yabloko's leader, Grigori Yavlinsky, a strong contender for the presidency, called the verdict a victory for democracy.

Chechen threat

Grozny: Shamil Basayev, who commanded a Chechen rebel raid into Russia in June, has been gathering recruits in the mountains and says that he is ready for a winter war if Russian forces break a ceasefire deal which was signed on July 30. *(Reuter)*

Kohl has prostate infection

Bonn: Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, who cancelled appointments last week, was treated for a prostate infection. After saying he had had a cold, his press office partly confirmed a magazine report that he had had a prostate operation. *(AP)*

Mengistu attack

Harare: Police said they had arrested a man after the attempted shooting of Mengistu Haile Mariam, the former Ethiopian dictator, who has lived in exile in Zimbabwe since May 1991.

Climb failure

Kathmandu: Bad weather and lack of time forced a British team led by Nicholas Harpet, a York businessman, to end an attempt to climb Gaurishankar, a 23,542ft Himalayan peak. *(AP)*

Georgian leader heads for a clear victory

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN TBILISI

THE Georgian leader, Eduard Shevardnadze, appeared last night to be heading for a comfortable victory in presidential elections after securing a strong endorsement for a five-year term as head of state.

In one of the most open polls so far held among the former Soviet republics, Georgia's electorate was yesterday offered a bewildering array of six presidential candidates and scores of parliamentary hopefuls ranging from Stalinists to Social Democrats. Despite fears that ethnic conflicts and the recent assassination attempt against Mr Shevardnadze could disrupt the process, the election appeared to conducted fairly and without violence. "The only problems we have encountered are long delays at polling stations because of the queues of people wanting to pass cast their ballot," said one foreign monitor in Tbilisi.

The former Soviet Foreign Minister was greeted with applause when he emerged with his wife from his bullet-proof car to cast his vote. "I think that this day will decide the fate of Georgia," said Mr Shevardnadze, who may attend Yitzhak Rabin's funeral today if his election victory is confirmed in time.

The Georgian leader is tipped to win twice the votes of his nearest rival, but it was unclear yesterday whether he would secure more than the 50 per cent needed for an outright first-round victory.



Shevardnadze: casting his ballot yesterday

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The offer is valid until the end of March and you will be able to explore some of Britain's most stimulating treasures, from famous national exhibitions to the sometimes overlooked municipal and privately owned collections, which turn a first visit into a commitment to return.

The Museums and Galleries Passport Guide comes with a Passport Card and we will feature a series of regular special events from time to time in our Weekend section indicating some additional exhibitions you may want to visit and take advantage of our exclusive offer.

The Passport Guide is a beautifully illustrated pocket guide which includes brief descriptions of each museum and gallery and their permanent exhibitions and the concessions available, with occasional references to future programmes.

The selection of museums and galleries is eclectic. It includes Cornwall's Newlyn Art Gallery with its stimulating Contemporary art shows; the Medieval experience of Chaucer's Tales in Canterbury; the Iceni at the Lynn Museum in Norfolk; the Industrial Revolution at Ironbridge; the Museum of Childhood in Edinburgh, known, not surprisingly, as the noisiest in the world; the Linen Centre in Co Antrim and the Museum of Life in Cardiff. The coverage is widespread by both geography and interest.

There are also some specific exhibitions listed in the Guide. For instance, in London, there is the Royal Academy's celebration of the art of Africa, *Africa - the Art of a Continent*, which runs until January 21; the David Hockney retrospective of his works on paper which runs until January 28 at the same venue. Across the Thames at the Design Museum, *Paul Smith - True Brit*, is on until April 10, 1996, and uses light, sound, projections and video to capture the work of one of Britain's leading fashion designers. There are new and expanding venues such as Catalyst, the Museum of the Chemical Industry in Cheshire, which has just opened a new gallery tracing the use of chemicals from the earliest times, and in the spring plans to open another, Chemicals for Life, showing the latest technological achievements.





With the guide you will be able to plan special outings because there are detailed listings reflecting the seasons and festivals such as *Getting Ready for a Victorian Christmas* at Blists Hill Open Air Museum; *Whisky Galore* at the Imperial War Museum or *Animal Encounters* at the London Transport Museum.

Presentation of the Passport Card at these and other participating venues will entitle you to a range of concessions, including two tickets for the price of one at most locations listed in the Passport Guide. The card can be used as many times as you wish.

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THE TIMES Museums and Galleries TOKEN 2

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Poland's religious factor can tip poll scales against Left

BY ROGER BOYES

POLISH priests yesterday urged their parishioners to reject former Communist or atheist candidates in the presidential elections, perhaps tipping the balance against Aleksandr Kwasniewski, the left-wing front-runner, and in favour of President Walesa.

Cardinal Jozef Glemp, the Polish Primate, made a point of casting his vote early yesterday so that television pictures of him would be shown in the daily news bulletins and thus sway undecided Roman Catholics. President Walesa wore an emblem of the Virgin Mary as he voted after Mass. An early exit poll put Mr Walesa ahead of Mr Kwasniewski but short of the 50 percent needed for outright victory.

The religious factor has become an election issue because of the reluctance of the Government — dominated by Mr Kwasniewski's former Communists — to ratify the 1993 Concordat between Poland and the Vatican. The former Communists have been arguing that the Concordat may limit the rights of non-Catholics. The Church claims that this — and the former Communists' support of more liberal abortion rules — make Mr Kwasniewski unfit to preside over a Roman Catholic country.

Mr Kwasniewski was yesterday at pains to point out that Polish voters were not having to choose between communism and Solidarity. "Communism is a thing of the past. It is not possible for it to return and there is no sense in its coming back," Mr Kwasniewski said outside his Warsaw polling station.

Mr Kwasniewski, who served in Poland's last fully-fledged Communist government, said: "The President's task will be to protect economic growth, solve social problems and lead the country to the West." In his last rally on Saturday, the sun-tanned candidate insisted that the vote was about another choice altogether: "Between stability and chaos." The economist, 40, has been presenting himself as a modern, risk-taking politician, going to discos, boogie-dancing, and at ease with other European politicians.

Polls suggest the voting will go into a second round in a fortnight's time. To win outright, one of the 13 candidates has to gain more than 50 per cent of the vote. The latest surveys give Mr Kwasniewski about 30 per cent, Mr Walesa is slightly behind — having made a recovery over the past month — and the third-placed Jacek Kuron has about 9 per cent of popular support.

In policy terms, not much divides the two front-runners since both support rapid entry to the European Union, privatisation and an enduring commitment to market reform. There are nuances, and above all a suspicion that an ex-Communist Polish President would pay excessive attention to Moscow's complaints about Nato entry. "The question is: to go towards the East or to the West," wrote Mr Walesa in his final election appeal in the *Polityka* weekly. He made clear Mr Kwasniewski was the Eastern option.

The election campaign has been fought largely on the basis of fear: would a President Kwasniewski, backed by an ex-Communist government and a parliament dominated by his cronies, preside over a new era of corruption and back-scratching?

The main case against Mr Walesa is his erratic leadership record over the past five years. Adam Michnik, a critic, said: "He was an unpredictable and irresponsible President, unreformable and incompetent."



A Warsaw resident casts his ballot in the first round of the presidential poll. The winner needs at least 50 per cent of the vote

NEWS IN BRIEF

ANC top in first local vote

Johannesburg: In South Africa's first democratic local elections, President Mandela's African National Congress has gained 70 per cent of the vote, despite its difficulties in delivering on promises it made when it took power 18 months ago.

The ANC says it has won every big city and town except central Pretoria where the National Party of former president F.W. de Klerk were ahead by one seat. *(Reuter)*

Typhoon toll up

Manila: The death toll from last week's Typhoon Angela rose to 476 after reports emerged from remote areas. About 280 Filipinos are still missing and ten of thousands are homeless. *(AP)*

Baby kidnapped

Guatemala City: The 22-month-old nephew of Rigoberta Menchu, winner of the 1992 Nobel Peace Prize, was kidnapped by two gunmen. The human rights activist said the act was political. *(Reuter)*

Troops deployed as India calls Kashmir election

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT

THE Indian Government has embarked on one of its riskiest political strategies with the announcement that it will hold state assembly elections in Kashmir early next month. The polls will touch the country's rawest nerves: thousands of extra troops and paramilitary forces have been deployed to meet possible consequences.

Elections in the largely Muslim Kashmir Valley, which lives under the guns of both militants and government troops, can only be a farce. The Government hopes, however, that the polls will give people a taste for democracy, and that even a flawed administration might gain legitimacy.

Turnout in some areas will be 5 per cent at best, and in many districts there may be only one candidate, making voting unnecessary. Campaigning will be all but impossible, given the danger of assassination: dozens of armed separatist groups have already ordered a voter boycott. The outcome cannot possibly reflect the overwhelming desire of Kashmiri Muslims to secede from India.

All but one state election in Kashmir since the first in the early 1950s has been rigged: the last time, in 1987, it was so blatant that it set the scene for the secessionist uprising two years later.

Rigging will not be necessary this time because only pro-Indian parties will be involved, but it is possible that people will be forced into voting to produce a respectable turnout. P. V. Narasimha Rao, the Prime Minister of India, is determined to restore an elected assembly to Kashmir before calling a general election in the first half of next year. He needs a simple, solid achievement to present to Hindu voters: claiming to have restored democracy to the country's only Muslim-majority state could give it to him.

The danger is that there could be increased violence, more human rights abuses by security forces and militants, and more meddling by neighbouring Pakistan, which facilitates the supply of guns and money to the separatists.

Elections would save Mr Rao's Government from the political ignominy of asking parliament to extend direct rule over Kashmir, imposed six years ago, when its authority expires in January. It is possible that something good could come of the polls, given that Kashmiris are sick of the five-year uprising and may settle for peace if there is a reasonable offer of political and administrative autonomy.

There lies the essential problem. Mr Rao has refused to offer anything on autonomy apart from the promise of negotiations with a newly elected state government.

The former kingdom of Kashmir acceded to India in 1947 under special terms that gave it substantial sovereignty, but those freedoms have been eroded to the point that they have now virtually disappeared.

The near-dormant National Conference, Kashmir's traditional dominant party, has demanded explicit promises of autonomy before it will take part in elections. Farooq Abdullah, the party's enormously unpopular leader, has not clarified what he will do now that demand has been rejected. He stands to become Chief Minister if he can find a face-saving way to participate.



Laptop cracks dead professor's puzzle

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

A BRITISH cryptologist who left behind a fiendish puzzle as part of an inquiry into life after death has had his code broken 47 years later — by a laptop computer.

UMGTN CMGVP TLGE RVGB — thus began the message encrypted in 1948 by Robert Thouless, a Cambridge psychology professor, with the challenge that no one would unravel it except with two keywords he swore never to disclose.

If the code were broken, Professor Thouless reasoned, it would be only with the help of a psychic medium who had plucked the keywords from beyond the grave, thus proving the existence of an afterlife.

No such proof exists yet. However, 11 years after the professor's death, a Californian computer expert has cracked the code that defeated psychics and fellow-scientists for half a century. It took James Gillogly and his high-powered laptop a matter of hours to find the keywords. The rest, apparently, was even simpler.

Mr Gillogly, an amateur cryptographer, learnt of the Thouless conundrum through the Internet. He studied a complex double encryption system often used by Professor Thouless, known as the Playfair technique, before writing a special computer program with which he put his laptopto work on a dictionary stored in its memory.

Four hours later the computer produced the keywords, "black" and "beauty". Using the Playfair technique, each word became the start of an alphabetical grid. The message was then decoded twice, once on each grid, two letters at a time.

Translated thus, the professor's last words read: "Crypt cryptology. This is a cipher which will not be read unless I give the keywords."

TODAY
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ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



VISUAL ART

Damien Hirst and the other Turner contenders are ready for inspection at the Tate Gallery

ON SHOW: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



THEATRE

Corin Redgrave plays the failed actor in Clifford Odets's *The Country Girl* at Greenwich

OPENS: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



MUSICAL

Jerry Herman's showbiz musical, *Mack and Mabel*, comes to the Piccadilly Theatre

OPENS: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



MUSIC

Violin virtuoso Anne-Sophie Mutter plays Beethoven with the LSO at the Barbican

CONCERTS: Wed, Thur
REVIEW: Friday

Nostalgia for the blue pencil

THEATRE

Blue Murder
Quakers Friars, Bristol

London began swinging in or about 1965 but the pop world was still rocking. The Dave Clark Five were big in those days and deserve a mention in theatrical history because Peter Nichols was commissioned to script a film in which they starred, and the money brought him the time to write his first stage play, *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg*.

He has written marvellous plays since then, brimful of ideas for breaking and bending the fourth-wall convention. And he has been famously at odds with the theatre establishment after disagreeing with the way *Poppy* was being directed a dozen years ago. Only one new play has been produced since then, *A Piece of My Mind*, in which George Cole played a writer plagued by the mutually reinforcing curses of envy and writer's block.

Until 1968, the major external curse was the Lord Chamberlain's Office, empowered to censor all references to religion, royalty and sex deemed unseemly by the noble lord's team of retired guards officers. Every playwright of note had to trudge along to St James's Palace to defend phrases and the very mention of issues that were the common coin in life and every other medium.

In the second half of Nichols's new play, a playwright arrives at Colonel Parrott's office in St James's to defend the one-act play we have watched in the first half. The underlying joke here is that the palace staff, from colonel to guardsman, are enjoying themselves in all the sparkish ways that must be expunged from the plays they examine. This is no longer an amazing joke — a pretty tired one — though it allows Nichols to plot some farcical manoeuvres to keep the guardsman locked in the lavatory and gives an enjoyable buffery role to Andrew Hilton as the absurd and toothy colonel.

The first-half's play is set in a gracious drawing room, where the lady of the house enters with flowers through the french windows, soon followed by a jolly young couple in tennis shorts. But all the characters reveal shameful or forbidden longings. Mother is a serial killer, the sweet young English Rose (nice performance by Claudia McNulty) is a gymslip dominatrix in blue movies, and so on. These were the realities, Nichols suggests, sometimes with tongue in cheek, that asked to be revealed in the contemporary drama.

Again, a fair amount of this is good fun, with a serious content to provide intellectual body. However, the funniest moments are the irrelevant disruptions of reality, as when the unseen stage manager starts the Chopin tape too soon and the son (Sam Bond), who turns out to be the playwright, must throw himself across the stage to reach the piano stall.

Nichols himself directs, for the local company Show of Strength, and while it is a coup for them, you cannot help suspecting that better-known managements consider the play not *quite* attractive enough. Ingenious, of course, but how shall we put it...? Mocking an enemy defeated long ago.

But at the very end the young playwright, perhaps speaking for today's Nichols, argues for the continuation (or return) of censorship. This does not come over as irony. Nostalgia for the thrill of a good fight is one thing: respect for a stupid enemy is alarming.

JEREMY KINGSTON

POP: **David Sinclair** on the Earls Court gig that finally put Oasis into the big time



JAMES MORGAN

The powerful personality of singer Liam Gallagher, along with that of his guitarist brother Noel, completely dominated the Oasis show at Earls Court

Bigger would be better

So welcome, Britpop, to the enormodomes. There have been other sorties by younger bands into the mega-venues: from Blur at Mile End Stadium all the way back to the Stone Roses at Spike Island. But with their two-night stand at Earls Court — 40,000 tickets shifted in six-and-a-half hours — Oasis finally led the new generation of acts into the big league.

In an unbelievably short time (their first single was released less than two years ago) the Mancunians have blurred the lines between rock and pop, indie and mainstream and Sixties and Nineties to the point where none of these terms may confidently be used any more to describe either them or their music. But no matter how revolutionary their impact, two years is not long to acquire the practical stagecraft necessary to stamp a mark of authority on a venue of this size. They blew it at Glastonbury by being too cocky, but at their first Earls Court show they veered in the opposite direction.

Their customary instrumental warm-up number, *The Swamp Song*, gave singer Liam Gallagher plenty of scope for a grand entrance, but he sloped on with very little fuss, doing his trademark, bow-legged shuffle and banging a tambourine to no audible effect. His first vocal of the night, *Acquiesce*, was shared with his guitarist brother, Noel Gallagher, setting the scene for a show that was dominated by these two powerful personalities.

The drama which has unfolded in recent weeks, of who would be playing bass, was resolved by the return at the eleventh hour of the band's original bass player, Paul McGuigan (who retired exhausted only a couple of months ago). But if he was excited to be back he wasn't letting on about it, and frankly, you would expect to see more animation in the average bus queue than was detectable in the performances of McGuigan, drummer Alan White and Bonehead on rhythm guitar.

The sound, although swathed in a thin haze of screechy treble, was tolerable, the lighting functional, and the stage set, flanked by two huge monitor screens, unspectacular. The success of the enterprise thus hinged almost entirely on the raw charisma of the Gallaghers, and the choice of songs. Here again they played safe, and the first hour of the show sounded more like a Greatest Hits package than a band bursting to show off their new album. As they wheeled out one wonderful song after another one could only marvel at the extraordinary body of work they have created so quickly.

Three of the numbers from *(What's The Story) Morning Glory? — Wonderwall, Cast No Shadow* and *Morning Glory* — were co-opted by Noel Gallagher for his solo acoustic slot which won a rapturous reception, after which the band was joined by a string section for *Don't Look Back In Anger*. Everyone was back on board for a colossal finale of *Whatever* and the Beatles song, *I Am The Walrus*, loudly accompanied by harmonica player Mark Feltham, a horn section and a small orchestra. It was a stirring finish to a respectable gig, but if they are going to make a habit of playing such venues, they will need to think in more detail about how to put across a show on this scale.

CLASSICAL

Half a dozen of one

Piano Circus
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

THINK of Katia and Marielle Labèque multiplied by three and you get something like Piano Circus. Ensemble and balance, discreetly assisted by amplification, are phenomenal: image-making, not so discreetly enhanced by stage lighting, is developed to a fine art. They will probably not find the technical facilities of Symphony Hall everywhere on their present Contemporary Music Network tour but they will surely find a way of looking good.

The problem with multiplying piano numbers is the law of diminishing returns. Two pianos are less than twice as effective as one; six pianos are nowhere near six times as effective. It is just that ever since these six pianists got together to perform Steve Reich's *Six Pianos* — six years ago, as it happens — six has become a magic number. Most of the pieces in the Piano Circus programmes could, one suspects, have been written for five or even four pianos with little loss in terms of texture, colour or dynamic range. Few display the textural ingenuity of one of the latest additions to the repertoire, John Metcalf's *Never Odd or Even*, which is an essentially six-sided palindrome finely calculated both in sound and structure.

The other fetish, derived partly from Reich's minimalism and partly from the limitations of a medium which presents such formidable problems in ensemble, is the rhythmic ostinato. Of the six composers represented in the concert in Birmingham, Graham Fitkin, David Long, John Metcalf, Kevin Volans and Steve Reich all make use of the ostinato in one way or another, at more or less length, but always obsessively.

The one exception is Juliet Palmer in her recently completed *Circus Dog*, which takes all kinds of risks by splitting the corporate identity, stressing individuality to the extent of postulating prepared-piano sounds here, direct hand-on-string contact there, conventional piano elsewhere. At times it sounds and looks like a piano shop with customers, technicians and mischief-makers all involved at the same time. It is not, on the other hand, as random as that: the thinking behind *Circus Dog*, however illogical, is the liberating factor that the audience at a Piano Circus concert is waiting for.

GERALD LARNER

Kick reading running order, Lisa loads a CD. BLUR? listens to intro IS THIS AN OLD TRACK? OH MUST BE. Lisa opens the CD case, reading sleeve notes Do you want some stuff on them? YES PLEASE. They did a gig for Eastbourne pensioners... HANG ON, I'LL WRITE IT DOWN ...you could say the pensioners weren't bothered by the noise because they're all deaf anyway... WE CAN'T SAY THAT. Course we can.

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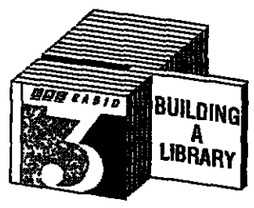
Our guide to the best available recordings of classical music, presented in conjunction with BBC Radio 3's *Record Review*

BEETHOVEN'S SEPTET, OP 20
Reviewed by Colin Lawson

BEETHOVEN'S Septet achieved immediate success at its public premiere in 1800 and has retained its popularity. Its six-movement design shows the influence of divertimenti such as Mozart's E flat String Trio, K563, but the medium itself was quite new, combining clarinet, horn and bassoon with violin, viola, cello and double bass. Wind instruments had previously been combined in pairs, but Beethoven's new wind/string colour influenced a large number of early 19th-century composers. The Septet had a special influence on Schubert's magnificent Octet of 1824, which reflects many of its formal features.

At present there are as many as 16 performances of the Septet in the catalogue, dominated by ensembles from Austria, Germany and Britain. Very few versions can be readily dismissed (though **Toscanini**'s 1951 orchestral version is surely a specialist niche), but the finest are distinguished by their acute response to both the dramatic and lyrical aspects of the music, balancing ensemble considerations with commanding solo playing.

The 1959 recording by the **Vienna Octet** on mid-price Decca remains highly competitive. Its coupling is a delicious performance of Mendelssohn's Octet which admirably illustrates the flexible sweetness of Willi Boskowsky's violin playing. Another bargain is a somewhat rustic performance by a Hungarian ensemble on budget-price Naxos. This is one of several discs which has as coupling Beethoven's Sextet Op 81 b for two horns and strings.



The only period performance of the Septet currently available deserves serious consideration. The **Academy of Ancient Music Chamber Ensemble** brings a luminous quality to its interpretation, especially enhanced by the use of gut strings and natural horn. Its coupling on L'Oiseau Lyre is a virtuoso rendering of Weber's Clarinet Quintet.

Along with this AAM disc, my shortlist includes a number of excellent performances on modern instruments, which can be differentiated in terms of national styles and sound-worlds rather than technical quality. The **Gaudier Ensemble** (Hyperion CDA66513) reflects British playing at its luxuriant best, while the **Berliner Soloisten** (Teldec 4509-97451-2) and the less weighty **Consortium Classicum** (MDG 301 0594) display a discipline of ensemble which is a joy in its own right. Yet another German performance by the **Linos Ensemble** (Capriccio 10 473) is illuminated by some characterful, even subversive playing from the inner voices, especially the viola.

But by the slimmest of margins I prefer the commanding yet seductive playing of the **Wiener Kammerensemble** (Denon CO-75373, £13.99). Above all, their flexibility of rhythm seems quintessentially Viennese and lends to their interpretation an improvisatory air which few others are able to match.

● *Recommended recordings can be ordered from the Times CD Mail, 29 Pall Mall Deposit, Barlby Road, London W10 6BL (freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bid@mail.bogo.co.uk)*
● *Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am): Richard Strauss's* Salome

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JAZZ

Ornette Coleman brings alto sax and idiosyncratic musical theories to the Festival Hall

GIG: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



POP

... while soul diva Anita Baker will be *Giving You The Best That I've Got*

UK TOUR: From Wed
REVIEW: Friday



BOOKS

Charles Rosen, pianist/scholar, publishes an epic new study, *The Romantic Generation*

IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Thursday



FILM

America's Black Panther movement provides the setting for a new drama, *Panther*

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2



DONALD COOPER

Grist to the Miller: Henry Little's sharp and lively revival of Jonathan Miller's production of *The Barber of Seville* pushes along at cracking speed

Satisfying trim and brush up

OPERA

The Barber of Seville
Coliseum

English National Opera's *Barber* begins with the advantage of key elements running strongly in its favour. There is the translation by Amanda and Anthony Holden, one of their very best. It is excellently articulated by every member of the cast with the possible exception of Don Basilio. Anyone still unclear about just how Almaviva wins his Rosina should head for the Coliseum. They will also find that Bartolo has joined the fashion of the month by becoming a Farinelli fan.

Jonathan Miller's production has the staying power to survive in other directorial hands — Henry Little moves this revival along at speed. *Commedia dell'arte* figures open and close the evening, but Miller anchors the *Barber* firmly in the higher 18th-century world of Beaumarchais. And he shows a welcome sympathy with old Bartolo by filling the glass cases of the drawing room with artificial limbs, the tribute of one medic to another.

To this highly satisfactory comic base the Coliseum adds another distinct plus, the return of Jane Glover to the house after a three-year absence. Glover allowed the overture to sound a bit tinny, but after that conducted the piece with an almost Mozartian delicacy. But the susurrations in the orchestra at Basilio's breath of scandal and the frozen consternation in the Act I finale were pure Rossini.

So too was the Act II storm, over as quickly as Rosina's temporary readiness to accept Bartolo. A delight.

Jean Rigby, after playing a number of dark-haired sirens with ENO, has put on a very Beaumarchais wig to turn into a blonde bombshell as Rosina. This is her debut in the role and it showed in *Una voce*, which lacked brilliance.

But once over that hurdle, she became a resourceful and desirable ward — by no means the symbolic caged bird hanging high in Bartolo's consulting room. *Contro un cor* showed the full warmth of her ample mezzo, and it could have done without the interruptions of the other singers on stage. Too much butting-in is the weakness of this revival.

Charles Workman, the American tenor noted a few weeks back in *Cosi*, is the nimble-voiced Count Almaviva. The throat had not properly cleared for his opening aria, but he, like Jean Rigby, soon slipped into the style of the evening.

His beanpole figure makes him an ideal lordling in the Wodehouse mould, and with a pair of knee-britches, he does excellently as a substitute music master. Put him beside Alan Opie's plump Figaro, in another wig (Robbie Coltrane variety), and there is the long and short of comedy. Opie roared into *Largo al factotum* like the experienced barber that he is and then kept the plot revolving adroitly.

Gordon Sandison's Bartolo snuffles around the stage like a worried pug dog and even lifts a leg at one point, but is no slouch when it comes to his aria. Richard Angus's Basilio is the only mushy point in a very sharp revival.

JOHN HIGGINS

Cool response to the drama of Euripides

Medea
Tramway, Glasgow

GAVIN Bryars's *Medea* was first given in Lyons in 1984 when it was marketed and assessed by the French media as a Robert Wilson show rather than a Bryars opera. This concert performance was its British premiere, given by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra both to launch its "Cutting Edge" concert series of contemporary music and as part of Radio 3's "Fairest Isle" celebration of British composers.

Bryars certainly has a "voice": the opening of *Medea* grabs your attention immediately with its warm string chords supporting first harps and then woodwind imitating doorbell chimes. But as the Bryars voice further establishes itself over the ensuing three hours, there are myriad opportunities for the attention to wander. The sound is big and warm, the warmth emphasised by the absence of violins. His writing for chorus is a sort of weird, not unattractive combination of Korngold (Hollywood period) and Strauss in his "Olympic Hymn" mode.

Otherwise it is mainly shifting string chords with minimalist burbling on top, separated into long blocks, or movements. As so often with music of this nature, all those movements seem to be in 4/4 tempo moderato: the occasional incursion into 6/8 is manna from heaven. There are "moments" to interrupt the flow — an interesting harmonic side-slip (twice), the odd persistent "wrong note" generating tension (sort of), high off-stage soprano vocalises — but they are few and far between.

Are sonorities enough? Maybe, if you believe listening to music should be like taking a long hot bath. Maybe not in opera. Euripides's *Medea* is pretty hot stuff, but Bryars purposely makes little attempt to match music to event; the piece ambles along in its own moderate time. To make doubly sure that there will be no dramatic involvement in a traditional sense, the text is sung in Greek, with only the odd passage in French and one in English — another Robert Wilson legacy — although given the Tramway's bathroom acoustics and a conductor (Martyn Brabbins) whose first consideration was not balance, this problem was largely academic.

Balance apart, Brabbins led a tightly controlled performance, leavening the repetitive blocks with touches of rubato and granting them musical if not dramatic shape. The Scottish Opera Chorus rose bravely to their moments of exaltation. Bryars paints Medea as a rational, everyday housewife rather than a sorceress on the rampage, and Majella Cullagh sang her that way, with bright, penetrating tone. Gidon Saks (Tutor) is a singer who can scarcely help being dramatically vibrant, and this was the nearest I have seen him come to defeat. Patricia Bardon (Nurse), Richard Halton (Jason) and Eileen Hulse (off-stage voice) made sterling contributions.

Bryars's next opera, based on Jules Verne's *The Experiment of Dr Ox*, will be premiered at the Coliseum in 1997. I hope it's in English. And I hope it won't be directed by Robert Wilson. Music must rule, OK?

RODNEY MILNES

LONDON

ALFREDA HODGSON BURSARY PRIZE: An all-star cast lines up for tonight's concert in aid of a memorial bursary for young singers. Joan Rodgers, Catherine Wyn-Rogers, Robert Tear, Simon Berridge, Ian Partridge, Michael George, Stephen Robert, John Lill, Malcolm Martineau and Rachel Bott offer a programme of favourites, with a few surprises thrown in. **Wigmore Hall**, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141). 7.30pm.

THE COUNTRY GIRL. Opening night for Anne Castledine, directing Corin Redgrave and Kika Markham in Clifford Odets's celebrated backstage drama of love, drink and marital protection. **Greenwich**, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm. Sat, 2.30pm. Until Dec 9.

UTE LEMPER. The German chanteuse appears for a one-night-only stop on her current promotional tour. Works by Sondheim, Weill, Prevert, Paul Celan, Hans Eisler and Friedrich Hollaender among others should make for a tantalising evening's entertainment. **Festival Hall**, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 8pm.

ELSEWHERE

BRIGHTON: The fun of **Hot Shoe Shuffle** returns this week by popular demand. A cocktail of high-energy tap and big band sounds, from Gershwin to Ellington and Fats Waller to Cab Calloway. Award-winning choreography by Dein Perry. **Theatre Royal**, New Road (01273-328 488). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 2.30pm and Sat, 4pm.

EDINBURGH. Tom Stoppard's multi-award winning **Arcadia** continues its tour, starring Sharon Maugham and Paul Shelley. Part historical romance, part detective story, it all adds up to a witty and intriguing comedy. A co-production with the National Theatre. **Festival**, Nicolson Street (0131-529 6000). Tomorrow-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, 2pm and Sat, 2.30pm.

MANCHESTER. Christmas can't be far behind when **English National Ballet** rolls out its first appearance of *The Nutcracker* this season. Choreographer Ben Stevenson and designer Desmond Heeley have concocted a suitably sparkling production, while keeping to a straightforward telling of E.F. Hoffmann's 1816 tale. Agnes Oaks and Thomas Edur return today as the Sugar Plum Fairy and the Nutcracker Prince, with Lisa Pavane as the Snow Queen. **Palace**, Oxford Street (0161-242 2503). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm.

SHEFFIELD. Duncan Bell and Siobhan Stanley play the cagger-welding couple in Philip Frank's production of *Macbeth*, set in an unspecified European country between the wars. **Crucible**, Norfolk Street (0114-278 9922). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Nov 8, 15 and 25, 2.30pm. Until Nov 25.

LONDON GALLERIES

Ainscough Gallery: John Hetherington's furniture, paintings by Fiona Moale (0171-834 7309). **Barbican**: Dora Carrington, Art of African Textiles (0171-638 4141). **British Museum**: Westminster Kings and the Medieval Palace of Westminster (0171-636 1555). **Hayward**: Art and Power: Europe under the dictators 1930-1945 (071-928 3144). **Kenwood**: Mrs Jordan — The Duchess of Drury Lane (0181-348 1286). **National Gallery**: Gods in Love: the Carracci Cartoons Restored (0171-747 2885). **National Portrait Gallery**: John Korbal Photographic Portrait Award (0171-306 0055). **Royal Academy**: Africa: Art of a Continent (0171-439 7438). **Tate**: Dynasties: Paintings in Tudor and Jacobean England: Life Patterns: recent contemporary acquisitions (0171-887 8000). **V & A**: Design Now: San Lorenzo Silversmiths Studio, Milan (0171-938 8500).

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
□ **Seats at all prices**

□ **THE CABINET OF DOKTOR CALIGARI**: A stage version of the German silent classic. Good sets, unearthly music, pointless dancing but a haunting performance by John Ramm as Matthew Kelly's sleepwalking killer. **Lyric**, King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm.

□ **COMMUNICATING DOORS**: Alan Ayckbourn's ingenious time-travel play. Julia McKenzie flees from a vengeful enemy via the doors of a hotel that take her forward and back a decade. **Gielgud**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5530). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **FUNNY MONEY**: Ray Cooney plays the man who finds a bag of bank-notes in his latest farce, Charlie Drake's excellent as a sorely-tried taxi-driver. **Playhouse**, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

□ **HOBSON'S CHOICE**: Leo McKern in the title role of Harold Brighouse's warm-hearted comedy. Nichola McAuliffe and Graham Turner excellent as daughter and son-in-law. **Lyric**, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; Sat, 3pm.

◪ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS**: Stephen Daldry's powerful production, with Nicholas Woodeson as the all-knowing Inspector, and Edward Peel and Susan Engel as the pillars of society. **Garrick**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm; Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5pm.

□ **JOLSON**: The highs and lows of the singer with a monster ego. Brian Conley belts out the songs enjoyably, Sally Ann Triplett an impressive Ruby Keeler. **Victoria Palace**, Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **THE MASTER BUILDER**: Peter Hall's cosy version of Ibsen, with Alan Bates, Gemma Jones and Victoria Hamilton. **Theatre Royal**, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

◪ **ONE FLEA SPARE**: Fascinating play by Naomi Wallace, set in plague-stricken London where an assortment of trapped people break social and sexual boundaries. Top class acting. **Bush**, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

□ **MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN**: Diana Rigg in title role of Brecht's epic denunciation of war. Jonathan Kent directs a new version by David Hare. **National** (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Previews tonight-Nov 13, 7.15pm, mats Nov 9 and 11, 2pm. Opens Nov 14, 7pm. Then in rep.

□ **SON OF MAN**: Dennis Potter's story of the life of Christ (Joseph Fiennes): religious rebel. Strong acting, good design, unclear purpose. **Pit**, Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight-Thurs, 7.15pm, mat Thurs, 2pm.

□ **TAKING SIDES**: Enthralling drama by Ronald Harwood, based on the investigations of conductor Furtwängler's alleged Nazi sympathies. Superb performances by Daniel Massey and Michael Pennington. **Criterion**, Piccadilly Circus, WC2 (0171-369 1747). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm.

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-867 1044). □ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (0171-734 8951). □ **Dead Guilty**: Apollo (0171-494 5070). □ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Albery (0171-369 1730). ◪ **Grease**: Dominion (0171-416 6060). ◪ **The Importance of Being Earnest**: Old Vic (0171-928 7616). ◪ **Indian Ink**: Aldwych (0171-416 6003). ◪ **Les Miserables**: Palace (0171-434 0909). ◪ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020). □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

NEW RELEASES

CRIMSON TIDE (15): Antique heroics in a nuclear submarine, with Gene Hackman and Denzel Washington. Tony Scott directs, with some fancy photography by Dariusz Wolski. **Odeon Leicester Square** (01426-915 683).

FARINELLI (15): The life of an 18th-century castrato. Lots of opera, sex and clothes, but the film only scratches the material's potential. Gérard Corbeau directs Stéfano Dionisi, Enrico Lo Verso and Jeroen Krabbe. **Barbican** ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **MGMtc: Fulham Road** ◪ (0171-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030).

◆ **FRENCH KISS** (12): Dizzy Meg Ryan gets entangled with French rogue Kevin Kline. Charmless romantic comedy, directed by Lawrence Kasdan. **Barbican** ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMtc: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343).

◆ **JADE** (18): Nasty, meretricious thriller about the ripples caused by a millionaire's murder, with David Caruso, Linda Fiorentino and Chazz Palminteri. Director, William Friedkin. **Empire** ◪ (0171-437 1234) **MGMtc: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332).

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

CURRENT

◆ **ASSASSINS** (15): Cat and mouse games between two contract killers. Reasonable action thriller, with Sylvester Stallone, Antonio Banderas and Julianne Moore. Director, Richard Donner. **MGM Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343).

◆ **CLUELESS** (12): Life and empty minds of Beverly Hills teenagers. Frivolous fun from director Amy Heckerling, with Alicia Silverstone. **Clapham Picture** (0171-498 3323) **MGMtc: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0171-437 1234) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343).

◆ **HAUNTED** (15): Ghost sceptic Aiden Quinn revises his opinions, staying in a stately home. Laboured version of James Herbert's novel. **Empire** (0171-437 1234) **MGM Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031).

LAND AND FREEDOM (15): Ken Loach's powerful Spanish Civil War drama, with Ian Hart, Rosana Pastor. **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Ritz** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121).

◆ **POCAHONTAS** (U): Strangely dull slice of American history: a backward step for Disney cartoons after *Aladdin* and *The Lion King*. With the voices of Mel Gibson and Irene Bedard. **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343).

IL POSTINO (U): Heartwarming delight about a simple man opening his eyes to poetry. Wonderful performance by the late Massimo Troisi, directed by Michael Radford. **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **Metro** (0171-437 0757) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (0171-435 3366).

◆ **TO DIE FOR** (15): Delicious social satire about a television weather girl's murderous lust for glory. Gus Van Sant directs Nicole Kidman and Matt Dillon. **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMtc: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343).

◆ **UNDER SIEGE 2** (18): *Die Hard* on a train, with an impassive star (Steven Seagal), a grinning villain (Eric Bogosian), and much tedious action. Director, Geoff Murphy. **MGM Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343).

ENTERTAINMENT

ART GALLERIES

SPINK. Paintings from studio of Douglas Stannes Gray. 1st - 24th Nov. Mon - Fri, 9am - 5.30pm Tues 9am - 7.30pm. 5 King Street, SW1

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr) **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Tomor 7.30 **BARBER OF SEVILLE**.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 304 4000 for Box Off & Standby Info. Tickets available on the day. The Royal Ballet: Tom't, Thur, Fri 7.30 **SWAN LAKE** Tomor, Wed 7.30, Sat (Last Night) 7.00 **MANON**

ADVENTURES IN MOTION PICTURES — SWAN LAKE — SADLER'S WELLS — 9-25 NOVEMBER — 0171 713 6000

THEATRES

ADELPHI **"ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE"** Wall St Journal **SUNSET BOULEVARD** Winner of 7 Tony Awards including **BEST MUSICAL** Starring **ELAINE PAIGE** 24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL 0171 344 0055 (bkg fee) GRP BOOKING 413 3302 (bkg fee) No booking fee for Adelphi Box Office Callers Recorded Information 0171 379 6564 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

ALBERY BO 0171 369 1730 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Grp 0171 413 3311 **"FIVE STAR SHOW** ...IRRESISTIBLE" D.Exp **FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE SIXTH STOMPING YEAR** Mon-Thu 8pm Fri & Sat 6 & 8.45 Fri & Sat 6pm perbop 4 prices 2 for 1

ALDWYCH cc 0171 416 6003 0171 420 0000 (no fee) Evgs 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.0 **NIAMH CUSACK MARGARET TYZACK PAUL BHATTACHARJEE** **INDIAN INK** **"TOM STOPPARD'S TRIUMPH - A BEAUTIFUL AND FUNNY FIREBALL OF A PLAY TO ILLUMINATE THE WEST END"** Today. Directed by PETER WOOD

AMBASSADORS 0171 836 6111/ 420 0100 (no bkg fee) **"NEW PLAY OF THE YEAR"** D.Mail **BURNING BLUE** Mon-Sat 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

APOLLO 494 5068/344 4444/420 0000 **JENNY SEAGROVE** "Impeccable" Times **HAYLEY MILLS** "Magnificent" F.T. **DEAD GUILTY** 'Richard Harris' new play in **'THE PERFECT THRILLER'** S.Times Mon-Fri 8, Mats Thu 3, Sat 5 & 8.15

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 0171 416 6075/ 413 3321 Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of **STARLIGHT EXPRESS** **"A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT"** Daily Mail White knuckle runs 10.45 daily Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £12.50

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CAMBRIDGE BO & cc 0171 494 5054 cc (no bkg fee) 312 1992/ 344 4444 Grps 413 3321/ 312 1970/ 494 5454 **FAME THE MUSICAL** **"FAME IS A FEEL-GOOD TRIUMPH"** Mail On Sunday **"BREATHTAKING"** Independent Evgs 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 **CHICHESTER FESTIVAL** 7-11 Nov **Frank Finlay, Jane How GASLIGHT** Patrick Hamilton's thrilling drama Sun 12 Nov **INCANTATION** Haunting music - Unforgettable **MINERVA STUDIO THEATRE** 6-9 Nov Millstream Theatre Company **TOP GIRLS** Caryl Churchill's brilliant play 10-11 Nov Hall Track Theatre **BOUNCERS** BOOK ON 01243 781312

COMEDY 0171 369 1731 Inc cc no bkg fee cc 0171 344 4444 no bkg fee **HAROLD PINTER** "brilliant comedy performance" S.Tel **THE HOTHOUSE** by Harold Pinter "David Jones's fine production" F.T "totally funny" Guardian **"A HOOT AND A SENSATION...DON'T MISS!"** Obs Evgs 7.45 Mats Thur 3.00 & Sat 4.00 **MUST END 2 DEC**

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DOMINION Ticketline 0171 416 6060/ 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee). Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321/420 0200 **GREASE** Starring **SHANE RICHIE** and **SAMANTHA JANUS** **"Fast, furious & fun, fun, fun."** Daily Mirror Evgs 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm **TICKETS AVAILABLE - APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE**

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GIELGUD Shaftesbury Ave bkg cc 0171 494 5530 (no bkg fee) cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Groups 0171 494 5454 **JULIA McKENZIE** **COMMUNICATING DOORS** by **ALAN AYCKBOURN** **"A MELODRAMATIC COMEDY THRILLER WONDERFULLY FUNNY AND GENUINELY SCARY"** D.Tel **"with the audience in turn ROARING WITH LAUGHTER AND LEAPING FORWARD IN FRIGHT"** Independent Evgs 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

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LYRIC Shaftesbury Ave BO/cc 0171 494 5045 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) **LEO McKERN** "a comic tour de force" D.Tel **NICHOLA McAULIFFE** "born to play Maggie" Today **GRAHAM TURNER** "gloriously funny" D.Mail **HOBSON'S CHOICE** by Harold Brighouse Directed by Frank Hauser **"a magnificent hit"** D.Tel Evgs 7.30 Mat Sat 3.00 **LIMITED SEASON**

MERMAID 236 2211 cc 344 4444 **JANET McTEER BARBARA FLYNN** **VIVATI VIVAT REGINA!** by ROBERT BOLT **'a knockout of an evening'** Today Evgs 7.30 Mats Wed,Thu 2.00,Sat 3.00

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252 Grps 0171 620 0741/24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000 **OLIVIER** Tom't, Tomor 7.15 **(PREVIEWS) MOTHER COURAGE & HER CHILDREN** Bertolt Brecht in a new version by David Hare **LYTTELTON** Tom't 7.30, Tomor 2.15 & 7.30 **THE WAY OF THE WORLD** William Congreve **COTTESLOE** Tom't 7.30, Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 **SKYLIGHT** David Hare

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Grps 0171 413 3311/930 6123 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL **CATS** Evgs 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45 **LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.**

OLD VIC 0171 928 7616/420 0000 **LAST TWO WEEKS** **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST** by OSCAR WILDE **"A wonderful night out"** D.Tel **"Elegant & effervescent"** S.Times **"Redmond Leigh-Hunt is the star-turn in a crack company"** Lo.S. **"An evening of sheer happiness"** Eve Std **Directed by TERRY HANDS** Evgs 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

OLD VIC 0171 928 8855/312 8034 The Royal National Theatre's **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS** Ltd Season From 24 Nov. Book Now

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171-344 4444 Grps 0171 413 3311 **THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL** **LES MISERABLES** **NOW IN ITS 11TH RECORD-BREAKING YEAR** Evgs 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the Interval **LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE**

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 734 8951 cc (24hr no bkg fee) First Call 420 0100 / 0171 344 4444 Grps 930 6123. **BEST MUSICAL** Laurence Olivier Awards 98 **"YOU'D BE CRAZY TO MISS IT"** D.Mail **CRAZY FOR YOU** **"PUTS THE BRIGHT LIGHTS BACK IN THE WEST END IN DAZZLING STYLE"** M.o.S. Evgs 7.45, Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 **GOOD SEATS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK**

PLAYHOUSE 0171 839 4401 /0171 420 0000/0171 344 4444 **AN ALL STAR CAST IN RAY COONEY'S NEW COMEDY HIT** **FUNNY MONEY** **"LAUGHS GALORE...A WINNER"** D. Exp **"Better than Feydeau...priceless"** D. Tel **"It deserves to Run For Your Wife, oops, can & can"** D. Mail Mon-Sat 8.00, Mats Thu 3.00, Sat 5.00 **THEATRE RESTAURANT 0171 930 9449**

PRINCE OF WALES 0171 839 5972/420 0232/344 4444/416 6052 Grps 0171 420 0200/413 3321 **TOMMY STEELE** **WHAT A SHOW** **'Tommy's Show packs Flash, Bang, Wallop' Eve Standard** Evgs Mon-Sat 8pm, Mats Wed 3pm Sat 5pm **For a Limited Season**

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400 First Call 420 0100 (24hr Bkg fee) 344 4444 Groups 420 0200 Cameron Mackintosh presents **MARTIN GUERRE** A New Musical by **BOUBLIL & SCHONBERG** **FROM 22 MAY 1996**

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734 cc 24hrs 344 4444, Grps 413 3321 Jesy Hanman & Michael Stewart's **MACK & MABEL** Tonight at 7.45 Gala Opening tomorrow at 7.00 Completely sold out

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee) **BEST MUSICAL ALL 4 MAJOR AWARDS WILLY RUSSELL'S** **BLOOD BROTHERS** **STEPHANIE LAWRENCE STEFAN DENNIS CARL WAYNE ...Brings the audience to its feet, and rousing its approval" D Mail** Evgs 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

QUEENS BO/CC (£1 bkg fee) 0171 494 5040/ 0171 312 8005 Mon-Thu 8, Fri & Sat 6 & 8.45 **LILY SAVAGE & PRISONER - CELL-BLOCK H** **THE MUSICAL** **"A marriage made in Heaven"** Ind **"A cross between The Rocky Horror Show and Acorn Antiques"** D.Tel **"HILARIOUS"** F.T. **10 HILARIOUS WEEKS ONLY!**

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON (0171 638 8891) **BARBICAN: A PATRIOT FOR ME** Tom't 7.15 **THE PIT: SON OF MAN** Tom't 7.15 **STRATFORD** (01789 295623) **RST: ROMEO & JULIET** Tom't 7.30 **SWAN: THE DEVIL IS AN ASS** Tom't 7.30 **TOP: THE PAINTER OF DISHONOUR** Tomor 7.30

SAVOY THEATRE 0171 836 8888 cc 420 0000 grps 312 1970 No bkg fee **BELINDA LANG KEVIN McNALLY** In Terry Johnson's award winning comedy **DEAD FUNNY** **"Blissfully Witty and Wicked"** Eve Stand Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15pm Sat mat 5pm & Wed mat 2.30pm

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 CC 0171 344 4444 Until 18 Dec **EDDIE IZZARD** **'A COMIC EMPEROR'** The Obs **'TWO-AND-A-HALF HOURS OF SHEER COMIC JOY'** D.Tel 15/10/95 Tues - Sat 8pm & Sun 7.30pm

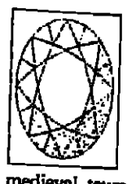
SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 0171 344 4444 (24hr/no bkg fee) Groups 0171 413 3321 **TOMMY** **SEE IT...HEAR IT...FEEL IT** Previews 20 February, Opens 5 March

ST MARTIN'S 0171 836 1443 (no bkg fee) 0171 497 1977 (bkg fee) Groups 0171 312 1934 (no bkg fee) Eves 8, Tues 2.45, Sat 5 & 8 43rd Year of Agatha Christie's **THE MOUSETRAP**

STRAND THEATRE Box Off & cc (no fee) 0171 930 8800 cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Groups 0171 413 3321/0171 930 6123 ***BUDDY*** **The Buddy Holly Story** **"BRILLIANT"** Sun ***BUDDY*** **"WONDERFUL STUFF"** Sun Tel ***BUDDY*** Tues-Thurs 8.0 Fri 5.30 & 8.30 Sats 5.00 & 8.30, Suns 4.00 ALL SEATS 1/2 PRICE FRI 5.30 PERF **7th HEAVENLY YEAR**

VAUDEVILLE 0171 836 9987 cc 420 0000/344 4444 (no bkg fee) Susie Blake Janie Dee Martin Connor Christopher Luscombe Malcolm McKee The RSC production of **THE SHAKESPEAR

A shining clue to the Earth's history ☐ The mysterious creature from the Antarctic ☐ Rogue virus threatens Australian wildlife



A town built of diamonds

TINY diamonds formed by a cataclysmic impact between an asteroid and the Earth 15 million years ago lie embedded in the stones of the medieval town of Nordlingen in southern Germany, British researchers have found.

The diamonds formed in a few minutes after the asteroid ploughed into the ground, and became incorporated into a blanket of molten rock that cooled to form the building stone, suevite, which was later used to build the church and the town hall.

Dr Iain Gilmour, of the Open University, made the discovery when he visited the area to make a television programme about the Ries Crater, the 15-mile wide hole formed by the impact. Together with colleagues from the University of East Anglia, Cambridge, and University College London, he has reported in *Nature* that the area probably contains more than 70,000 tonnes of a mixture of diamonds and silicon carbide formed by the impact.



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

Fortune hunters need not rush, however. The largest diamonds are about two thousandths of a millimetre across, which is why they have escaped detection in the past. "They would make good engagement rings for an ant, but Elizabeth Taylor wouldn't be very impressed," says Dr Gilmour.

He says that the diamonds were formed by a process very similar to the production of industrial diamonds, as vaporised debris from the impact condensed. The asteroid, three quarters of a mile across and travelling at a speed of more than 5,000 miles an hour, ploughed straight through 2,000ft of soft sedimentary rock before reaching the hard basement rock.

A huge explosion threw debris tens of thousands of feet into the air — fragments have been found hundreds of mile away in the Czech Republic. The tiny diamonds that formed were deposited on silicon carbide also formed by the impact. The discovery could provide a new way of telling whether an area conceals an impact crater, Dr Gilmour says. Many such impacts occurred in the past, but only 140 craters are known on the Earth's surface. The rest have been concealed by geological processes which have swept away the evidence. The presence of tiny diamonds with silicon carbide is a clear clue of a past impact.

"Finding impact craters is a nightmare," says Dr Gilmour. "That is why some geologists are reluctant to believe that there have been so many impacts in the past. The beauty of diamonds is that they last for ever, so we can use them to detect events that occurred millions of years ago."

Confirmation has come from a study of the most catastrophic impact of all, the one that killed the dinosaurs 65 million years ago. Fragments of diamond appear in the geological strata that record this event.

The bigger the impact, he suspects, the bigger the diamonds. Really big asteroids might produce diamonds of a worthwhile size — and might explain some known sources of diamonds which seem to have no obvious geological explanation.

New life



WITH the help of a bucket and a length of rope, a new creature has been dragged from the waters of Antarctica by Jonathan Shanklin, of the British Antarctic Survey. Carried back to Cambridge in a coffee jar — the BAS does nothing by halves — it turns out to be unlike anything previously described.

In *NERC News*, a magazine published by the Natural Environment Research Council, Mr Shanklin, Lloyd Peck and Dr Geoff Morgan report that it is a bryozoan, a member of a class of creatures that normally lives on the bottom of the sea. But this particular species was spotted on the surface close to the Brunt Ice Shelf as a drifting cloud of light brown spheres up to an inch in diameter.

To see anything there is a surprise, because the water is as clear as gin. Examination has shown the spheres to be the first free-swimming bryozoan colonies ever found.

In their normal habitat on the ocean bottom, bryozoans feed by filtering plankton from the water, using hair-like projections as pumps. They look a bit like fungi, and are firmly attached to the rocks. The new variety is clearly different, and many mysteries about it remain. What does it feed on? Why is it found in conjunction with sea ice? And why has nobody ever seen it before?

Rabbit plague



IN Australia, it's a dog's life being a rabbit. Forty years after myxomatosis, another deliberately-introduced virus is sweeping across the country. This time it is said to be an accident, but not many rabbits are likely to believe it.

In March a trial of rabbit haemorrhagic virus was begun on Wardang Island, off the Yorke Peninsula near Adelaide. The idea was to investigate whether the virus would kill wild rabbits without spreading to other species. Rabbits inoculated with the virus were isolated in a pen behind two sets of double fences.

Of course, the virus escaped. By October it had reached the mainland, possibly carried there by bushflies. The scientists tried to limit it to a narrow coastal strip, but it has now appeared 200 miles away near Yunta. "No containment will be attempted," Geoff Newman, South Australia's chief veterinary officer, told *New Scientist*. "It would need an army."

There are suspicions that a landowner may have deliberately taken infected rabbits into the area. In any case, the scientists do not seem too concerned, rejoicing that the virus is killing rabbits, as they hoped.

But the effects may spread wider. Once rabbits go, foxes and wild cats will either die or be forced to hunt native species. To prevent this, these creatures will need to be killed, too, and an all-out assault launched on the surviving rabbits to prevent the development of immunity.

A sophisticated chemical analysis can reveal who has been taking drugs. **Anjana Ahuja** reports

Your lifestyle trapped in a hair

Faced with a suspect who has consumed exactly the same meal as his poisoned (and now dead) dinner guest, the aristocratic sleuth Lord Peter Wimsey wonders if the suspect has built up a resistance to arsenic. Chemical analysis of his hair clippings shows he did, indeed, dine regularly on the poison to prepare for his heinous deed.

Strong Poison, by Dorothy L. Sayers, was first published in 1930 and shows that the idea of using hair to expose drug use is far from new. The technical challenge has been to decipher reliably the chemical information locked in the hair. A conference in London this week will hear how this challenge has been tackled by scientists from the University of Wales College of Medicine. They have developed a hair test accurate enough to be trusted in court, and have provided evidence for a number of civil and criminal cases. Examples include a child custody case, where a prospective guardian had to prove he did not abuse drugs, and a drugs-related theft, where hair analysis led to a reduction in sentence.

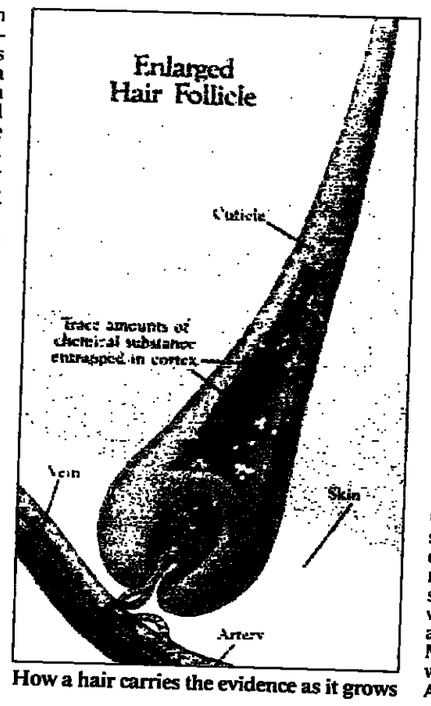
Their research exploits the fact that traces of drugs creep into the hair shaft and become woven into the hair as it grows. Over a period of months, one strand of hair provides a sequence of snapshots revealing the dates, amounts and types of drugs taken. The test formulated by John Wicks and his colleagues involves snipping hair from the root, binding it in aluminium foil and chopping it into one centimetre chunks. Each chunk is dissolved using a chemical. The class of drugs under test is then extracted — if present — using a solvent.

To this extract they add an antibody, which acts like a chemical magnet, attracting the drug. They then add a precise amount of the drug they are trying to detect. So if the test is for cocaine, for example, they add cocaine, which is distinguished from any illicit cocaine by tagging it with a substance which emits gamma rays (a radio label).

The mixture now contains the illicit cocaine from the hair, an antibody and the added cocaine. A chemical battle breaks out between the two types of cocaine as they fight to attach themselves to the antibody.

"This competition for binding sites on the antibody is on a one-to-one basis, and we can measure which is winning," says Mr Wicks. Judging the battle involves passing the extract under a gamma ray detector, which can pick up a signal from the added cocaine bearing the radio label. The researchers use this reading to deduce the amount of illicit cocaine clinging to the antibody. The more illicit cocaine there is attached to the antibody, the more illicit cocaine there is in the sample. A tie in the chemical tug-of-war implies equal amounts of illicit and added cocaine. Complete dominance by the added cocaine implies the sample contains *only* added cocaine, and the sample is "clean".

Hair grows at the rate of one centimetre per month, so treating one-centimetre portions provides a month-by-month record of drug use. Moreover, a visit to the barber won't scupper the test. "We can use underarm or pubic hair instead," says Mr Wicks. "The only drawback is that neither grows to more than about four centimetres, so we have a limited history. But a brand new haircut would look pretty suspicious anyway."



How a hair carries the evidence as it grows

Drug detection in hair, or DDH, can sniff out opiates (including morphine), amphetamines, benzodiazepines (of which Valium and Temazepam are examples), barbiturates, cocaine and methadone. It is more efficient than urine testing on several counts. It is much more difficult to pass off someone else's hair as your own, or to tamper with the sample. DDH picks up intermittent or past drug use, whereas telltale traces of most drugs vanish from urine after three days.

Hair can be sent through the post to a laboratory and, unlike urine, requires no refrigeration before laboratory tests start. (The British runner Diane Modahl claims that her failed drugs test resulted from an inadequately refrigerated urine sample.) Quibbles about test results or mislabelled hair samples can be settled easily because DDH is repeatable. Blood tests are an alternative but they reveal only drugs taken a few hours earlier.

Mr Wicks embarked on hair testing three years ago, after the Stapleford Trust, a charity devoted to drug addiction, contacted him at the university's department of pharmacology and therapeutics. The trust had heard that hair testing in America was helping to check whether addicts were really kicking their habit. Even better, the test could show whether addicts were taking the methadone prescribed for them, or were taking some and selling the rest. Mr Wicks says: "The work done by the American companies had great practical benefits but the theoretical background seemed pretty unclear. So we got a PhD student to go back to square one."

The result of the team's success was Tricho-Tech Ltd, a company partly owned by and working for the Stapleford Trust. It has three researchers and a student. Its work will feature in Forensic Analysis 2000, this week's conference on drug abuse organised by the trust and the British Academy of Forensic Sciences.

As well as continuing its work with the Stapleford Trust, Tricho-Tech now wants to look at drug testing in sport. Mr Wicks says: "We would like to start testing for steroids. At the moment, we can only spot Clenbuterol [a growth-promoting drug], which has steroid-like properties.

"We would also like to develop a test for testosterone, which is one of the most popular drugs in sport. But, before that, we need to find a way of telling male and female hair apart. Women have a much lower level of testosterone swilling about, so we would expect it to be reflected in the hair." Research on that should begin next year.

● *The Forensic Analysis 2000 conference is on Wednesday at the Royal Society of Medicine. Details: Rosemary Lass, Stapleford Trust (tel/fax 01926 843619)*



HUW EVANS

The chemical detective: John Wicks measures out a sample of hair for analysis

WILL DEPUTY HEADS SURVIVE?



GED

A new survey shows deputies in secondary schools are being made redundant or not replaced. Other teachers are expected to take on more management responsibilities.

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The novelist who has sniped at both the Queen Mother and her ex-husband

'I regret publishing it, not writing it'



ALAN WELLER

Penelope Mortimer: not a woman who chose to ignore the rules, but one who simply never quite grasped them

Penelope Mortimer's life has been punctuated by scandal. She had six children by four different men. She told the world about being sexually abused by her father: the gut-wrenching disintegration of her 25-year marriage to John, the creator of Rumpole, and her attempted suicide.

She had half a cancer-riddled lung removed, yet continues to smoke fiercely. Her first foray into biography produced a life of the Queen Mother that was so scurrilous that Macmillan, the publishers who originally commissioned it, dropped it on the day it went to the printers.

Aged 77, Mortimer is a tiny, thin woman with dark eyes set in an urchin's face. She opens the door of her semi in Cricklewood, offers a surprisingly large and freckled hand, leads you to a cluttered conservatory and lights the first of many Silk Cuts.

Next week *Queen Mother* is reissued. Ten years ago, when it was first published, Andrew Morton was an unknown hack and royal biography was of the "pink tulle and pearls" variety. No wonder Macmillan had a fit of the vapours over Mortimer's catty sideswipes at the nation's favourite grandmother and her revelations that Her Majesty did not initially want to marry the future George VI, preferring his equerry, James Stuart.

"The publishers got more than they bargained for and what they got shocked them rigid," says Mortimer, obscured by a haze of smoke. They should have known better than to choose an author who refused to come in from the garden to watch the royal wedding. "I find it impossible to think of the royals as royals. If I'd just done it like everybody else, it would have bored me absolutely stiff."

Mortimer is not good at doing things like everybody else but this gives her no pleasure. This is not a woman who chose to ignore the rules, but one who simply never quite grasped them.

Her father was a misfit Anglican clergyman who, frustrated by his wife's frigidity, turned his sexual attentions to his daughter. Her mother was obsessed by ghosts and "lacked every maternal quality except faith in regular meals". Mortimer attended seven different boarding schools, never learnt to play or to make friends.

"I had men friends but they'd nearly always been *lovers first*," she says. "I couldn't see the point of women friends. I had a deeply conventional idea that a relationship with a man was always more interesting."

Desperately insecure and craving affection, Mortimer launched into a series of affairs that produced her famous brood of six. There were two by Mr Reuters, two by two lovers and two by Mr Mortimer. In this she was egged on by her mother. "She thought I was a dreadful mother, incompetent housewife and terrible cook. She would always step in and take over the boring side of life and tell me to run away and play. So I ran away and played, and she did the dirty.



JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

"The children say I was a very good mother. I think I was appalling. I can't remember making any great sacrifices for them. I was busy writing novels [*The Pumpkin Eater, The Home*] all the time they were small."

She has 11 grandchildren. "My girls have all gone totally the other way. They all worked before they married and then they all gave it up to be ideal wives and mothers. It baffles me. I'm pretty useless at the things grans are meant to do. I don't bake cakes."

Mortimer may not consider herself an ideal wife, but her up-and-coming barrister husband, John, was hardly an ideal husband. She was "addicted" to him, he was compulsively unfaithful, dispassionately bewildered by his wife's grief. After years of agony, they divorced in 1971. He married a 22-year-old, also called Penelope; she took an overdose, was given ECT, disappeared to America for a few years and then retreated to the Cotswolds, where she transferred her obsessive energies to doing the garden.

Five years ago she returned to London — "I suppose I thought it was time to get back to people again" — and produced her coruscating autobiography, *About Time Too*. She sent a copy to John, saying "no hard feelings". He has never replied. "My four eldest children had no problem with the book but the last two [John's] probably found it at best embarrassing, at worst distressing. They are far too loyal to say so, which rather irritates.

"It's a murky episode," she continues. "I don't regret writing the book. I do regret publishing it. I can't now understand how I could have had such faith in its being understood. Anyway, since then I haven't been able to write anything, except to revise *Queen Mother*. Who knows if there will ever be another book. I want there to be, I suppose . . . vaguely."

She may not have much time left, judging by the frequent cough that racks her skinny frame. "I hate smoking, but I can't imagine working without it."

Age has not boosted her self-confidence, not lessened her many regrets. Yet Mortimer is bereft of self-pity. "I have had an enormous amount of good times," she says, giggling. "I was always having a good time, except when I wasn't."

The sex shop for French intellectuals

A Paris art exhibition has made bisexuality the height of chic

The French treat sex and art with equal gravity. When the two are combined as they are in the exhibition "Feminine-Masculine: The Sex of Art" at the Pompidou Centre in Paris, one can expect nothing short of reverence.

This was exemplified last week as scholarly types, who had queued for up to an hour for the pleasure, gazed at buttocks well-executed in oils, and took notes on exhibits such as a silk nightgown with hairs growing on its chest. An outbreak of nervous giggles from a couple of tourists in front of some pink wax lumps in a glass case had the natives glaring.

Beyond that there was little frivolity or delight lurking in the five "sexions" of the exhibition. The catalogue set the tone: "Women have generated a non-phalloeentric *eroticism that* leads to new artistic possibilities," it pronounced, later promising that "turgence and detumescence, dryness and wetness are addressed". Such concepts must have been troubling all Paris, if the extraordinary popularity of the exhibition is anything to go by.



KATE MUIR

Can the attraction be the 10ft-tall piece of grey underfelt wrapping itself round pink underfelt? Is it the train-sized black metal rod poised on rails before an open cylinder glowing with red light? Is it the Picassos, the Warhols, the Mapplethorpes, the Brancusis?

As I entered my second hour of wading through body parts, I went into sensory overload, a feeling similar to having eaten too much cheesecake. But the French were still plodding on, debating the significance of each item, attitudes appropriate to the Nineties where safer sex is all talk and no action.

Suddenly it made sense: the exhibition was an enormous sex shop for intellectuals. If such an exhibition were to be staged in Britain, at the very least sanctimonious questions would be asked in the House about public institutions funding pornography. One newspaper here, *France-Soir*, tried in vain to create a scandal surrounding the "Sexpo", and printed photographs with "Censored" signs. But a survey of visitors failed to show any degree of shock or disgust.

"Thrilling," said a pensioner. "Very positive and not at all shocking," enthused a middle-aged woman. Two 50-year-olds from the provinces said: "We are neither shocked nor astonished, but we don't like it that much. We came to see Gustave Courbet's *The Origin of the World* [an exquisite 1866 painting which leaves nothing to the imagination]. As for the rest, we find it a bit too Parisian."

One of the big intellectual attractions of the exhibition, according to its curators, is that it goes beyond the classic sexism of Picasso and the sexual ambiguity of Marcel Duchamp. The latest work is all about androgyny and "*la troisième sexe*" or, as one modern art expert explained: "Sex is neither homosexual nor heterosexual. Sex is *between*."

Half the magazines in the city have responded to this idea with enthusiasm. Days after the exhibition opened, bisexuality was declared to be chic. *Paris Match* occupied itself with female "drag kings", pictures of women in well-cut men's pinstripe suits, with pencil moustaches. *VSD*, the equivalent of the *Radio Times*, ran true-life confessions from *la troisième sexe* such as: "Clemence lives with Pierre but she also loves Sophie — a double love story of relative harmony between three people." This unthreatening triumvirate was pictured in woolly jumpers and jeans in a pleasant apartment.

Meanwhile at the fashionable nightclub, Folies Pigalle, on Fridays and Saturdays, the correct dress is "sophisticated androgyny". Short, slicked-down hair in raven black or silver is essential for both sexes. There is a touch of eyeliner for men, and a "return to proper clothes" for women, which means well-tailored trouser suits, or black satin evening pyjamas, according to the nightclub's "artistic director".

After a while, the intellectual earnestness with which life and art are pursued in Paris can pall. Two essentials are missing from this cerebral view of sex in exhibition halls and beyond — vulgarity and laughter.

Black opera in a Texan drawl

Joanna Pitman gets to grips with a musical spiritual sunrise



Hannibal Lokumbe: weird

IS HANNIBAL LOKUMBE weird, or am I just having a spot of bother with my spiritual sunrise?

"Your sun is shining on our mystic musical gods," he assures me. What? Even here, on a dark Thursday afternoon in the Warner Classics office off Kensington High Street?

"Sure it is. The gods are all around us. You have just godda let your mind mellow a little. Then you'll see them and hear them. Sure you will."

Perhaps I look as if I am about to flee in terror into the Kensington traffic, for this little pep talk goes on for some time, delivered in a slow, hypnotic Texan drawl, until resistance breaks down and I decide I might as well claim to be contemplating something of a spiritual sunrise. Just over there, yes, I see it now, just by the photocopier.

With that out of the way, we can now discuss *African Portraits*, Lokumbe's new opera. This is a combination, presumably pretty sunrisy and spiritual, of African drumming, chants, theatre, symphonic music, gospel, blues and jazz. America's often stuffy classical critics came over all mellow and moody. "Spellbinding", "the stuff of legends" were two comments: *The New York Times* critic pronounced it "unbridled ecstasy".

It certainly has the stamp of authenticity, given that the performers — African drummers, gospel singers, blues singers, an enormous choir and the Hannibal Lokumbe Quartet — are backed by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, all under the directorial baton of Daniel Barenboim.

"The story is the history of the slaves and the evolution of black music. First there are the drums of Africa, then the sounds of bodies hitting the floor of the slave ships, bddumm bddumm," says Lokumbe.

"Then we hear the spirituals sung in the cottonfields and the blues of the delta swamps and then the jazz of the street bars.

"For this composition, I had to delve into my spiritual world to experience what it was like for slaves in those days. I fasted and I prayed for three days and then I went and stood by the water in New York and for hours I just stared out to sea, stared out to Africa. Then I went home and had a dream, and that is when I heard the voices and the music. When I woke up I went straight to my piano and wrote it all down."

LOKUMBE, when not immersed in his spiritual world and his compositions, also happens to be a jazz trumpeter of considerable distinction, a Miles Davis of our times. He looks the part with his towering frame, with fingers and legs that go on for ever and a frenziedly dreadlocked skull.

He says: "*African Portraits* is the result of my discoveries in Africa. I cannot think of a purer form of expression than the music I heard in Kenya. I played my trumpet for six hours straight the first time with the African musicians, with drums and violins and wooden trumpets with double reeds like oboes. And all around they were dancing and throwing up the red dust. It was wonderful."

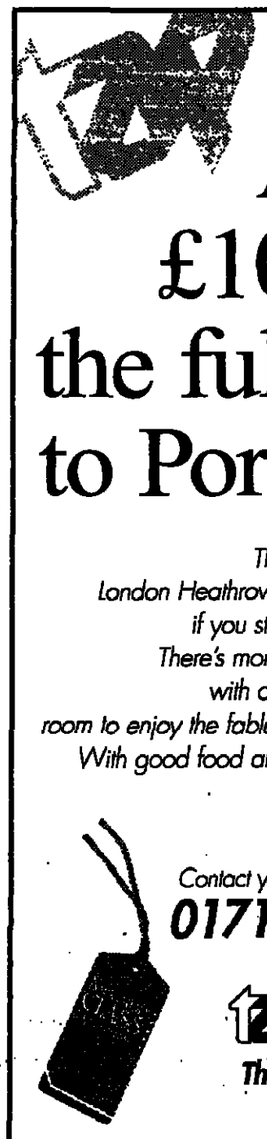
At the memory, Lokumbe falls silent. Suddenly the glittering white gate of his mouth opens and out comes a tongue of startling pink. "Yeaah, it was reeeal, wooonderful."

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THE TIMES MONDAY NOVEMBER 6 1995

Rabin's legacy must be peace, not civil war

Conor Cruise O'Brien says Israel should heal internal wounds first

The murder of Yitzhak Rabin brings a peculiarly piercing horror to tormenated Israel: the murder of a Jewish leader by a Jew.

Killing of Jews by Jews has not been entirely unknown in the history of Zionism and of the State of Israel, but it has been a strong taboo since 1948.

On June 25, 1948, the newly formed Israel Defence Forces opened fire on the *Altalena*, a ship manned by Irgun, the forerunner of Likud. Fifteen men were killed, mostly on the Irgun side. That night, incipient civil war was nipped in the bud by Menachem Begin, who had been aboard the *Altalena* when it was set on fire, when he broadcast over the Irgun underground transmitter: "Irgun soldiers will not be a party to fratricidal warfare . . . Within the State area, we shall continue our political activities. Our fighting strength we shall conserve for the enemy outside."

That statement is an informal but vital part of the foundation charter of the State of Israel. Internal politics, hot though they have often been, have been bounded since then by the taboo against fratricide.

If we can safely predict — even after the assassination of the Prime Minister — that there will be no civil war in Israel, this is because not only the Labour Alignment, but also its fierce political opponents, in Likud, are strongly averse — and for powerful reasons — to any moves towards such a disaster.

> Labour and Likud should prepare to be partners

It seems clear that the man arrested for the murder, Yigal Amir, was acting alone, as he claims. Alone but not without stimulation from the rhetoric of other extremists.

But Likud should no more be lumped together with the extreme Right than the Republican Party of Bob Dole and Newt Gingrich should be lumped together with America's fanatical "militias" movement. Likud's present (and extremely able) leader, Benjamin Netanyahu, inherits the mantle of the late Menachem Begin. Netanyahu knows all about the story of the *Altalena* and Begin's crucial broadcast of June 1948. All Likudniks know that it was Begin who averted civil war when Ben Gurion seemed prepared to accept it.

If — as there is reason to fear — Amir becomes a hero to the extreme Right, and his exploit finds emulators, Likud members will co-operate with the Government and IDF in tracking down Jewish terrorists, who would be putting at risk the very existence of the Jewish State. For if Likud and the Government were seen to be co-operating in this matter, the leaders of Likud would be as liable as those of Labour to be targeted as traitors by a handful of fanatics on the far Right.

We must hope that both sides in the politics of Israel will now cool their rhetoric. The need for Likud to mitigate its verbal violence against Labour is sufficiently evident, and Netanyahu can be expected to do so, but there is need for caution also on the part of Labour. There is a danger that some Labour politicians will try to use enmities generated by the murder of Rabin to the detriment of Likud. They may try to suggest that Likud bears some responsibility for this murder, through the violent rhetoric of some of its members against the moves towards peace. But to use this great tragedy for party political purposes would of course be irresponsible in the highest degree. Shimon Peres and Netanyahu need to talk together, urgently and earnestly, to limit the fervour of party political exchanges.

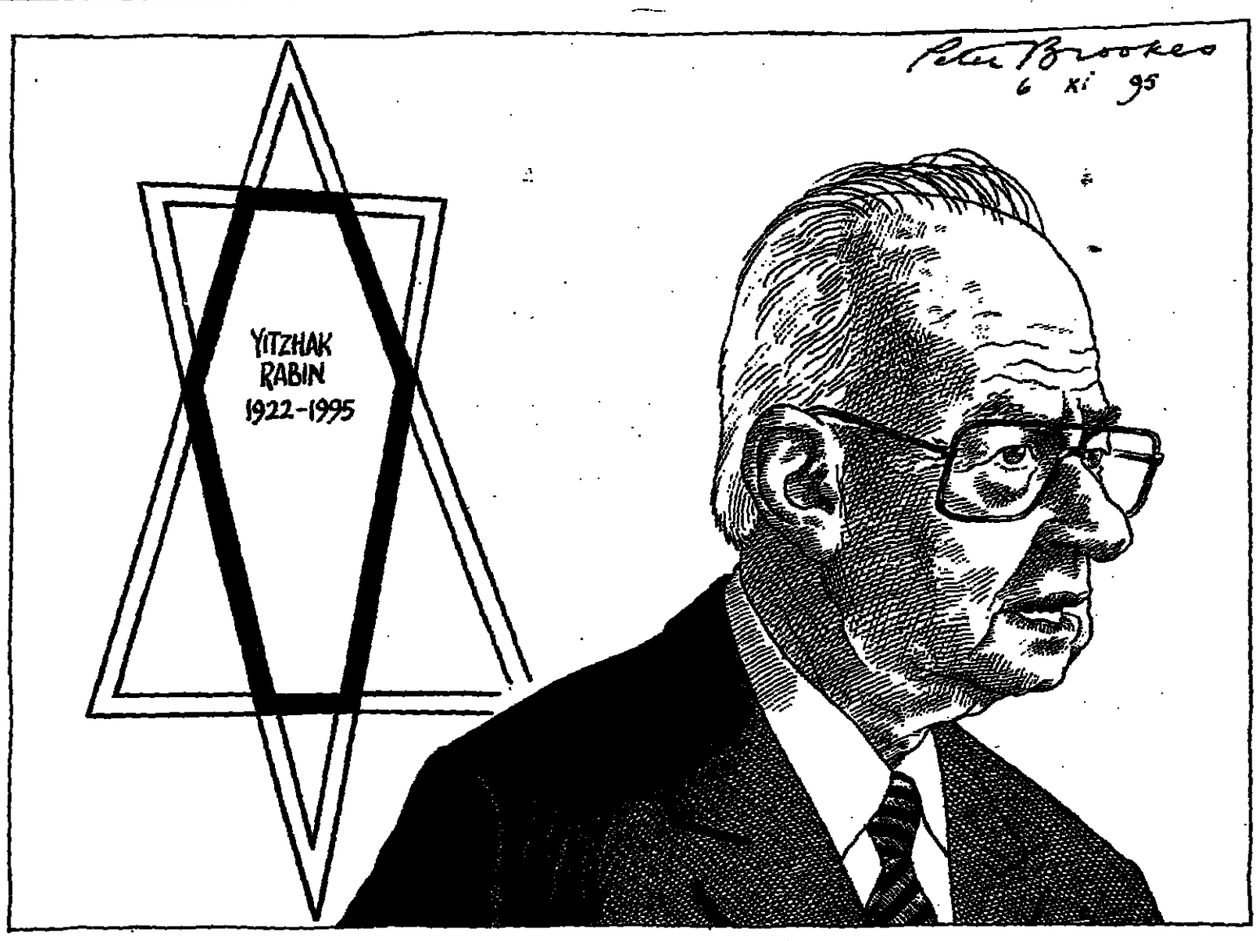
Meanwhile, Arab terrorism against Israel seems certain to continue. The "territory for peace" strategy pursued by the Rabin-Peres Government — and which Shimon Peres has pledged to continue — has paid off handsomely for Israel in terms of international relations and reputation. But many Israelis believe that Israel has given away territory *without* getting peace in return. Arab terrorism, backed by Syria and Iran, and operating mainly through Hamas and Hezbollah, continues unchecked. Yassir Arafat has been unable to prevent terrorist attacks on Israel out of Gaza, which is supposed to be under his control. Israelis ask what good they have derived from making peace with a politician who can't deliver it.

What Israel most needs is peace with Syria, which should dry up most of the external support for terrorism, and even enable Arafat to clamp down on Hamas. Peace with Syria would require Israel to withdraw from all of the Golan, and removal of all the Jewish settlers, plus a free hand for Syria in all of Lebanon. This would be a price worth paying for peace with a partner who *could* deliver his side of the bargain. In exchange, Israel would require Syrian co-operation in the destruction of Hezbollah and Hamas. But nothing resembling any such deal could be made acceptable to the Israeli public in a pre-election period.

If Likud wins the next election outright, it could perhaps make peace with Syria. If Netanyahu decided to do that, he could invoke the example of his predecessor, Menachem Begin, who made peace with Egypt in 1977-79 by giving back all the Egyptian territory that Israel had occupied in 1967, and by uprooting all the Jewish settlers from the territory in question. Netanyahu might like to move that way, but I am not sure he could carry his party.

The best outcome for Israel in next year's election would be a hung Knesset, leading to a government of national unity. This would be able to act in Israel's strategic interests, without fear of party political repercussions. Such a government would have a better chance than any other of achieving peace with Syria.

So Labour and Likud would do well now to comport themselves as possible future partners. It may be that the grievous shock to the nation of Rabin's murder will tend to unite Israelis, and so ultimately promote peace. That would be the finest and most appropriate monument to the memory of Yitzhak Rabin.



MARTYR FOR PEACE

The assassin's failure

Political murders make history, but not as the perpetrators would wish

Violent death is a revolutionary event. It has a resonance in the human imagination like nothing else in history. This resonance lasts indefinitely. Those who know hardly any historical facts may well remember that Julius Caesar was assassinated in the Capitol, that Jesus Christ was crucified outside the walls of Jerusalem, that Abraham Lincoln was shot in a Washington theatre and John Kennedy in a Dallas street. In the ranks of monarchs, Charles I of England, Louis XVI of France, and Nicholas II of Russia do not stand out for high abilities, but they are among the best known members of their dynasties, simply for having been killed. The murder of Yitzhak Rabin has all the force of a tragic climax: it will not be forgotten, and it transforms the politics of Israel and perhaps of the Middle East.

Those who say that Mr Rabin was a patriotic statesman, a courageous man, or that nobody else in Israel could have taken the peace process so far, are not merely expressing the admiration which is natural to their grief. His achievement as Prime Minister was both remarkable and admirable. He deserved the Nobel Peace Prize far more than most people who have received it. Yet his political position at the time of his death was not especially strong. The suicide terrorist attacks against Israel had soured public support for the peace programme. He faced a general election inside a year, which he might well have lost. There were growing numbers of demonstrations against his peace policy, and bitter attacks were being made on him personally. As a statesman, Rabin was admired by the world: as a Prime Minister he was in some trouble at home. Despite his manifest qualities of strength and intelligence, the Israelis have never seen him as a charismatic leader. Now he has the charisma of assassination.

The lesson of political assassinations is that usually, but not always, they have the opposite effect to what the assassins intend. Brutus killed Caesar in order to free Rome of a dictator and restore the Republic: the death of Caesar created a powerful impetus for the era of the Roman Emperors. Perhaps that would have come in any case, but Brutus, in trying to forestall it, made it inevitable. The death of Abraham Lincoln did nothing to save the South, but made the period of reconstruction far more bitter, because his magnanimity had been removed. Those who crucified Jesus thought, no doubt, that that would be an end to him; in terms of human history, the execution of a visionary leader by the colonial power ought to have been a non-event. Yet nearly 2,000 years later, the Christian churches have something like 1.5 billion members.

Even the least admired of murdered kings can become cult figures. Anyone contemplating a political assassination should first visit Gloucester Cathedral. That magnificient building was paid for by offerings at the tomb of King Edward II, who was murdered while a prisoner at Berkeley Castle. If people could make a saint out of Edward II, how much more powerful must be the violent death of a peacemaker who deserves to be admired? The murder of Mr Rabin naturally presents two questions for Israelis, the national future and the future of peace. The first will involve asking what has become of their society. This was not only a political murder but the murder of a Jew by a Jew, of a brother by a brother, and in the name of God. It is a crime against the people of Israel in the name of Israel, and against the Jewish religion.

William Rees-Mogg

Near the beginning of the Torah is the story of Cain and Abel, the first great fratricide in recorded history. "And the Lord said to Cain, where is Abel, thy brother? And he said, I know not: am I my brother's keeper? And he said, what hast thou done, the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground. And now art thou cursed from the Earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand; when thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth."

The murder of Mr Rabin is the sin of Cain; that it was performed in the name of God makes it a blasphemy. It will take time for Israel to come to terms with such an act of defilement.

We may know more about the state of mind of the assassin in due course. In a sense it does not greatly matter. Political murders have been committed by people whose mental states varied from that of the rational idealist, Brutus, through the histrionic show-off, John Wilkes Booth, to the deranged loner, Lee Harvey Oswald. But idealism, theatricality and paranoia all alike respond to some real public opinion, even if a minority one. There were plenty of people in Rome, Washington and Dallas who wanted Caesar, Lincoln or Kennedy dead, without having the least intention of doing anything about it themselves. The hysteria of the individual mirrors and is enhanced by the hysteria of the crowd.

That is something the crowd knows well. Today, as Yitzhak Rabin is buried, there will be at least hundreds of Israelis who will recognise that, before it happened, they wished him dead in their hearts. But there will be tens of thousands who will know that only a week before, they were greedily agreeing with those who denounced him as a traitor, and his peace policy as treason. The crowd is never wholly innocent, but is not wholly guilty either: it knows that it has to repent an act which sprang from an emotion which it partly shared and partly stirred. Of course many Israelis deeply feared the risks of the peacemaking process; Yitzhak Rabin himself feared those risks; inevitably such fears produced an atmosphere of hysterical hostility among some of those already opposed to him politically.

As well as anger, therefore, there will be a feeling of national shame and guilt. Only the individual can know how far each feeling is personally justified. There is also the direct guilt, which falls on those Arabs and other Muslims, inside and outside Palestine, who have tried to sabotage the peace because they consider that it involved undue concessions to Israel. The peace agreement is the most hopeful development for Palestinian Arabs in 50 years. Yet the terror attacks on Israel created an Israeli public opinion from which a Jewish assassin emerged almost as a natural consequence.

It is hard for most outsiders to sympathise greatly with the Likud Party, but one can see the difficulty of its new political position. In theory, the Government has now been robbed of the authority of Mr Rabin; the peace negotiations will now be conducted by Shimon Peres, who is equally experienced but has always been seen as a moderate. Nations often prefer peacemaking to be conducted by hawks rather than doves, yet the deep emotional impact is likely to be the opposite. In his last weeks, Mr Rabin was open to attack, as a living Prime Minister. He is now beyond any such attack, as a hero and a martyr. Last week he was a politician among politicians, with whom anyone could legitimately disagree. He is now one of the great figures of Israeli history. No doubt in a generation's time revisionist historians will be looking at his record, and they will find interesting criticisms, as they always do. But that will be far too late for the next election. If anyone doubts this, let them set themselves this GCSE-type question: "Imagine you are a Likud speechwriter, and draft a speech for Benjamin Netanyahu, the Likud leader, attacking Yitzhak Rabin (a) shortly before his assassination, (b) shortly afterwards."

There is an argument that Shimon Peres was always the wiser man, and that the peacemaking demanded the contribution of both. After the decisive year of 1967, there was a new movement in Israeli public opinion. The success of the Six Day War, in which Yitzhak Rabin was chief of staff, went to many people's heads. There was naturally a mood of triumphalism, which was enhanced among many religious Jews by a biblical sense of destiny. The Foreign Minister, Abba Eban, knew it was wrong; the Prime Minister, Golda Meir, could not quite brace herself to resist it. Likud began to feel a wind in its sails. This public mood finished Abba Eban's career in active politics. I suspect that Shimon Peres always saw the danger of this more clearly; his position was rather nearer to Abba Eban's; Yitzhak Rabin's then seemed closer to Golda Meir's. But Israel would only trust a statesman who had shared the exhilaration of that expansionist mood, just as the Conservatives trusted Macmillan rather than Butler after the Suez disaster. Sometimes people are trusted because they have been wrong when the crowd itself was wrong.

Now Shimon Peres seems to stand alone. He no longer has the partnership of Yitzhak Rabin, nor the protection of his living leadership. But he does have the authority of his death. Yitzhak Rabin may uniquely be able to defend the peace initiatives in death, just as he was uniquely able to advance them in life.

Nolan is not enough

Peter Riddell on Parliament's deeper malaise

Parliament is in a bad way — uncertain of its role and effectiveness, jealous of the incursions of the executive, Europe, the judges and the media, and held in low public esteem. That is what today's debate on the Nolan report is really about. The malaise is far more serious than the business interests of a few dodgy MPs. Consequently, the proposed remedies barely address what is really wrong.

Some Tory MPs are worried about a potential loss of income from the new rules, and from the Opposition's proposals for greater disclosure. They fear what their constituents might say about earnings from consultancies — in some cases multiples of their parliamentary pay of £33,000 a year.

But there is a deeper frustration. Over the past year, many MPs have criticised the way the Commons has developed. It is not just that many older members dislike the empty, raucous exchanges and tabloid intrusions into MPs' private lives. They fear that Parliament is increasingly ineffective. Political debate, and decisions, are increasingly by-passing the Commons. The *Today* programme is a better forum for a minister or shadow to make a point than most Commons exchanges. The Home Secretary is far more constrained by the decisions of judges than by votes of MPs. Much of the wrangling over Europe has reflected resentment over a loss of Westminster power.

The Commons is not even performing its functions well. Too much badly drafted and flawed legislation is passed, and the Commons has a mixed record in holding the executive to account. Ministers have to answer to the House but, provided they survive the theatrical pressures of Question Time, they have little to fear. Select committees have a patchy record, because MPs of talent prefer service in one of the 180 frontbench posts. The committees are not composed of the best and the brightest: with a few exceptions their monitoring of the executive does not match their aspirations.

A slow start has begun on reforms: the changes to sitting hours became permanent on Thursday. But action is needed to strengthen Commons scrutiny of legislation, and in holding the executive to account. And Parliament has to establish a new relationship with the courts and Europe, instead of just regarding them as adversaries.

These tensions have aggravated the problem of recruiting MPs. Some middle-aged members, such as Dudley Fishburn and George Walden, are retiring out of frustration, and a growing number of former ministers are stepping down at the election after they leave office, rather than staying on for two or three terms to give the benefit of their experience. People with successful careers outside politics are not coming forward as candidates and that more and more entrants are full-time politicians.

Some Tories argue that this narrowing of the political class will be made worse by Nolan, since only committed politicians will be willing to make the sacrifices. That is, however, a misreading of the Nolan report, which specifically says the House should continue to have people with a wide range of outside interests and a variety of backgrounds. "A Parliament composed entirely of full-time professional politicians would not serve the best interests of democracy," he said.

The trouble is that Nolan tackled only half of the problem — the often exaggerated allegations of abuse by MPs. Banning paid advocacy is a necessary but small step. But despite ministerial claims about the importance of the ban, this won't be enough for the Government to hold the line against the disclosure of earnings from work related to service as an MP. The Tories are vulnerable whatever happens in tonight's vote. But this will not produce better, or more virtuous, MPs. Pay also matters. MPs' salaries have more or less maintained their value since the 1960s, but nationally, average earnings have risen by 80 per cent in real terms over the same period. The gap is even larger for ministers, who earn much less than most of the people with whom they deal.

Of course, public service has its own value and hardly anyone becomes an MP to make money. But it is naive to expect successful people to suffer big financial losses to further their ambitions, often at a period of life when the cost of children is at its peak. No wonder many MPs seek consultancies to boost their incomes.

Any solution requires not only a bipartisan initiative on pay to ride out the likely populist backlash, but also a more thoroughgoing approach to reform of Parliament itself. We have far too many MPs, and ministers. Slimming down the government and the Commons could make both more effective, and respected. A smaller Commons has been endorsed by that unlikely radical Roger Freeman, while Douglas Hurd has argued that "one day, Parliament will have to be brave enough to reduce substantially the number of MPs and increase substantially their pay". That day is a long way off. Today's debate merely addresses the superficial ills.

Unwarranted

QUEEN ELIZABETH the Queen Mother has reined in her favourite thriller writer, Dick Francis. She has informed him that his novels are becoming too gruesome for the royal palate.

Francis's latest book, *Come to Grief*, involves grotesque mutilations of horses, a suicide, an attempted suicide and a torture scene. And although the plot grips tighter than a jockey's jodhpurs, the former champion admits that he is concerned about its reception at Clarence House.

"She told me I was getting very bloodthirsty," he explains in next month's *Country Living*. "This one's got a lot about colts having their hooves chopped off, so I am a bit worried."

Every year, the Queen Mother receives the first published copy of his annual thriller. While others had to wait until September this year, she received a specially bound copy at the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes at Ascot in July. Whether she has the stomach for another blood-curdler is open to question.

● *Disturbing news about the satirists at* Private Eye: *they have started to believe in their fantastic creations. When asked by a colleague this week what had happened to "Dave Spart" and his diverting column of loony-left cant, the receptionist replied: "He's not in the building. He must have gone home." My colleague reminded her that Dave is fictitious. "I don't know about that," she said. "Maybe he's freelance."*



"I can disclose that nothing will be disclosed . . . oh no"

DIARY

Peacemaker

YITZHAK RABIN'S gravel-filled voice — refined by years of heavy smoking and whisky — will be missed. Even by those such as Gerald Kaufman who caught the sharp end of it.

On his first encounter with Rabin in Israel, soon after the 1967 war, Kaufman had the temerity to suggest that Israel had launched a pre-emptive strike before the Egyptian planes had left the ground. "He flushed with anger and exploded." After this, Kaufman came to know and respect the man — although humour was not his strong point. "He was very stern. I had a great affection for him, but I can't think of anything he did in my presence which made me laugh."

● *In New York, Republican sympathisers have been running an ad campaign to coincide with a visit from the Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble, likening him to an unsavoury politician from the Deep South called David Duke. "David Duke of Ireland," runs their slogan. Trimble has a quibble: "They've left out the comma. It should read 'David, Duke of Ireland'."*

Streetwise

AN ART gallery in London claims to have the painting that inspired the title of the TV series *Coronation Street*. The Lowry-like painting, called *Coronation Street*, by the late Mancunian artist Alan Lowndes, hangs in a new exhibition at the Krane Kalman gallery in Knightsbridge.

The television series was first screened in December 1960 and the painting is dated 1961. But the gallery's owner, Andras Kalman, claims that Lowndes had finished and titled the work at least a year previously, and that Tony Warren, the *Street*'s original author, came across it then. "I don't think Alan Lowndes aped him. It was the other way round," he says. "Nonsense," replies Warren. "In no way did the painting influence me."



Did this *Coronation Street* inspire the series?

● *The rehabilitation of Norman Lamont continues. The badger-haired former Chancellor is reportedly on the shortlist for the safe Tory seat of Vale of York. He has long coveted the new constituency, because he has relatives in the area.*

P·H·S

هكذا من الاصل

DEATH OF A PEACEMAKER

"I shall not die, but live": *Psalm CXVIII*

Some men have what the poet Alan Seeger once called "a rendezvous with Death". Yitzhak Rabin was one such: the first *sabra*, or native-born, leader of his country, whose military and political career was devoted first to conflict and then to its resolution. Few Israelis have lived lives so intimately intertwined with the history of their motherland. Born in Jerusalem in 1922, Rabin was one of Israel's great warriors. He was also one of its great peacemakers.

Without his martial skill, the Jewish nation would have been weaker; without his capacity for conciliation, it would stand less chance today of escaping what he called "the ceaseless cycle of bloodshed". The Israeli Prime Minister's own rendez-vous with death was bitterly symbolic of the struggle he faced as a soldier turned statesman. His last act was to address a peace rally; his assassin was not a Palestinian, enraged at the modesty of Israeli concessions, but one of his own people, enraged that such concessions should be made at all.

The mighty grow used to the threat from the enemy without. But it is often the enemy within to whom they fall victim. In 1981, President Anwar Sadat of Egypt was shot by an officer; three years later, Indira Gandhi was shot by her bodyguards. The cry *Et tu, Brute*? has been the death rattle of many a fallen king.

The assassination of such an important figure is always a convulsion in the life of a nation. The assassin's purpose is not only to take life but to sow chaos and confusion. Just as white supremacists hoped that the murder of Martin Luther King in 1968 would whip up black militancy, so Jewish extremists may be expecting Rabin's murder to sound the death knell of the peace process. Like their militant Palestinian counterparts, they will be hoping that this outrage will make it harder to be moderate, harder for erstwhile foes to seize the hand of peace.

Yet, as William Rees-Mogg argues opposite, one can never be certain how the body politic will respond to such a convulsion. Abraham Lincoln's assassination in 1865 did nothing to advance the confederate cause; quite the opposite, in fact. President Kennedy's murder in Dallas almost a century later had the unintended consequence of strengthening the Democrats' grip upon the White House. It is impossible to predict every possible, terrible outcome of Rabin's assassination — though fanatics on all sides will try to do so. All honourable people must hope that the fragile Middle Eastern peace process survives this terrible blow.

The Jewish conscience will wrestle long and hard with this event. To see a leader of decency and vision gunned down is bad enough. To see him felled by one of your own is far worse. For centuries Jews have suffered the hatred of other races. Increasingly, at this transitional moment in the history of Israel, they face the hatred of each other. The reaction to the Hebron massacre in February 1994 demonstrated how great a gulf had grown between those who believe that a million Arab lives are not worth a Jewish fingernail, and those who do not. With Rabin's assassination, that gulf may open a little more. How the Jewish people respond to this spiritual and political dilemma will determine much else.

More than is often appreciated, hope is at the heart of Judaism. *Lo amut ki echyeh* says the psalm: "I shall not die, but live". The Jewish mystics say that even a little light banishes much darkness. At a moment when the whole world seems a little darker, it is easy to forget how much light has already been generated by the Middle Eastern peace process. That light need not be extinguished by the madness of men. In the case of Yitzhak Rabin, death's sting can still be drawn by his own people and those with whom they may yet be reconciled.

DEBATE DIVORCE

The Lord Chancellor's Bill needs thought not death

Within a week ministers will have to decide in Cabinet whether to scrap the product of five years' work to reform the process of divorce. It ought to be a simple matter of continuing down a trail that has been long made clear, of continuing a policy that has been supported by all the churches, including the Roman Catholics, of finishing a piece of government business that has been widely judged to be good for the family and for marriage. But it is not simple.

Opponents of Lord Mackay's Divorce Bill in the Cabinet and Conservative Party have raised the claim that it is "anti-family". In making divorce harder and kinder in practice the Bill is said to offend important principles about the nature of marriage itself. This is a view that must be respected — and has been. But it has been found less strong than the arguments against it.

Some ministers will argue that the opposition to the Bill is itself the problem, that an issue on which passions divide the party is too risky to include in this year's Queen's Speech. With his parlous place in the opinion polls and party unity a paper-thin convenience, the Prime Minister is bound to be swayed by such talk.

Instead, he should go on and govern. This would be the first Government Bill on divorce to be introduced to the House since 1857. At a time when anxieties about the state of the family and the health of marriage are high, this Bill would present the first guaranteed opportunity in well over a century for Parliament to debate the best ways in which family life and the interests of children can be preserved. That opportunity must not be denied.

Too many marriages end in divorce. Britain has the highest divorce rate in Western Europe and there has been an alarming rise in marriage break-up in the early years when children are small and at their most vulnerable. The number of children under the age of five who have been affected by divorce has risen by two-thirds in the past 18 years. Children of divorced parents usually suffer emotionally from the experience and do less well at school and work. Helping couples to keep together must be of value.

What then do the opponents of this Bill recommend? They are concerned that the proposed mediation procedures may benefit men more than women and that to allow more marriages to end without fault or blame is to erode the separate nature of marriage as a bulwark of our culture. But no proposals have been offered that would end Britain's status as the divorce capital of Europe. If such ideas do exist, let them be presented to Parliament in the course of the Bill's readings. Lord Mackay's reforms have been through extensive consultation. But improvements can still be made. The Lord Chancellor is clearly on the side of those who want family life strengthened: he must consider suggestions for improving his Bill in this regard.

The Divorce Bill has been misrepresented as a crude product of liberal thinking, designed to make divorce easier. It is not — as the broad support for it testifies. It is intended as far as possible to save marriages, not destroy them. Those who oppose Lord Mackay's Bill can surely not believe that the present law is perfect. So if reforms are to be made, let them be debated openly, if necessary with a free vote. The young victims of Britain's broken marriages deserve no less.

TIMES IN EUROPE

From Wapping to Brussels and beyond

Today *The Times* marks another milestone in its long life: if you bought this copy on the Continent it will have been produced by our first regular printing operation ever established outside the UK. We hope thus to relieve the frustration of our continental readers who either cannot find the newspaper stocked at a convenient outlet or, if they can buy it, cannot do so as early in the morning as they would need or like.

The Times printed near Charleroi will not be any kind of specially tailored Euro-model: satellite technology will send the paper's second edition to Belgium without amendment. This same paper will now, for example, be in both Milan and Newcastle by the start of the working day. We invite both new readers and those so far occasional readers on the Continent to enjoy this regular and more reliable delivery.

Throughout the world new technology makes easier the satisfaction of mutual curiosity. Continuing the innovative traditions that first forged *The Times* more than two centuries ago, we will exploit all possible opportunities to make our journalism more widely available. We soon expect thousands of readers to be able to read *The Times* on the Internet. Some of those will be computer enthusiasts close to home: but others will be *Times* readers further afield than we can hope to reach even from the plant that printed its first copies last night.

After the creation of the single European market in the 1980s came predictions, some fantastic, others merely fatuous, that closer entanglement of economies and societies would create pan-European media. Although transcontinental business newspapers and television channels have come slowly into existence, many of the predictions were flawed. Newspapers cannot easily cross language barriers, and if they do so, may lose the editorial personality derived from the society in which they began. That is one reason why we judge that readers of *The Times* abroad do not want a newspaper trying to be all things to all nationalities.

But there is another more important reason. All English-language newspapers enjoy the advantage that they can be understood and read with pleasure by so many from the Atlantic to the Urals. *The Times*, however, has in recent years offered a distinctive message about Europe's future.

All Europe's nationalities are growing more curious about each other as people work, travel and trade with ever greater ease and frequency across borders. But with knowledge comes both understanding and misunderstanding. We have tried here both to increase the understanding of European countries as they are and to question the views of those who idealise what they are not. We look forward now to reporting to new readers as well as old ones, to hearing from new readers, publishing more of their letters on this page, and using our new base to extend further the arguments on which the Continent's future depends.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Time for talks on cannabis law

From Dr Philip Robson

Sir, Dr Thomas Stuttaford states correctly ("Who knows the truth about cannabis?", Body and Mind, October 31) that I am exasperated by the entrenched positions taken by the various protagonists in the cannabis legalisation debate — and surely I am not alone in this. It is certainly the case that progress to a more rational discussion is seriously hampered by the poor scientific quality of much of the existing human research on the drug.

The problem is that the controlled and co-ordinated studies which are required to clarify the potential risks to recreational users and to evaluate possible therapeutic applications within medical practice can never be undertaken while the drug retains its current legal status.

No research ethics committee could contemplate approving the administration of an illegal drug to human volunteers, and the Schedule 1 classification of cannabis under the Misuse of Drugs Regulations (1985) prohibits doctors from prescribing it to their patients under any circumstances.

The current level of uncertainty about the human pharmacology and toxicology of a drug which is used regularly by millions of people must be a matter of great concern. The urgent need to make possible the sort of research which could go some way towards dispelling this ignorance is surely one of the most compelling reasons for discussing a change in the law.

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP ROBSON
(Consultant psychiatrist and senior clinical lecturer),
Chilton Clinic,
The Warneford Hospital,
Warneford Lane,
Headington, Oxford.
November 1.

From Mr Michael Edenborough

Sir, "Tough on crime, tough on the causes of crime!" I seem to recall Mr Tony Blair proclaiming a little while back. There can be no doubt that the trade in unlawful drugs is one of the most important causes of crime, from organised crime at the production end to petty crime committed by the final consumers.

If Mr Blair is serious in his commitment against crime I hope that he will listen to Ms Clare Short's ideas on the legal status of cannabis (report, October 30): otherwise he is merely a reactionary, and not a radical.

Good ideas do not always seem palatable at first sight, and often they need refining before they can be implemented. However, a leader with vision would recognise the gem of a good idea and use that, rather than dismiss the whole concept because it would be difficult to sell. The latter course creates sycophants and inhibits creative problem-solving.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL EDENBOROUGH,
1 Essex Court, Temple, EC4.
November 3.

Saro-Wiwa sentence

From the Director of Literature, Arts Council of England

Sir, Five years ago I was in Nigeria for the 60th birthday celebrations of Chinua Achebe, one of that country's greatest writers. It seemed wonderful to me, after several years as Director General of the Africa Centre in London and now as head of literature at the Arts Council, to be in a nation that could publicly extol a living writer in a week of national festivity.

Now, however, Nigeria sentences writers to death — Ken Saro-Wiwa (letter, November 3) — or exile (Wole Soyinka). Achebe himself, badly injured a few weeks later in a road accident, lives in America because disabled facilities and personal freedoms are guaranteed there but not in his own land.

When will governments realise that the words of writers survive far longer than the actions of politicians? I hope that the Nigerian authorities will reflect on this and remember that their reputation will for future generations be founded upon what the writers of today say about them. If one of their own number is executed their verdict will ultimately resound far more potently than that recently passed on Ken Saro-Wiwa.

Yours faithfully,
ALASTAIR NIVEN,
Director of Literature,
Arts Council of England,
14 Great Peter Street, SW1.

Lottery grants

From the Chairman of the Sports Council

Sir, Charles Woodd's call (letter, October 31) for lottery funds to go to community groups is already being met by the Sports Council. To date, Lottery Sports Fund awards totalling over £104.7 million have been allocated to 586 schemes across 41 sports and every county in England. The majority are to small community-based schemes and for under £100,000.

Yours faithfully,
RODNEY WALKER, Chairman,
The Sports Council,
16 Upper Woburn Place, WC1.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

MPs' income and retaining integrity

From Miss Julia Hall

Sir, How can Austin Mitchell argue (report, November 2) that his earnings from broadcasting and journalism are not related to his position as an MP? Or how is anyone, including Alan Duncan, MP, himself, to determine what proportion of his earnings as an energy adviser is due to knowledge of Parliament and what is due to his expertise as an oil broker? The partial disclosure of outside earnings demanded by the Labour Party would seem to me to be just as ambiguous and uncertain as the present rules are said to be.

Indeed I doubt whether either partial or full disclosure of outside earnings will, in the long term, do anything to enhance the reputation of MPs in the view of the general public. The information will not be easily available to most people and we will only be made aware of it when an MP's honesty and integrity are questioned.

Matthew Parris in his Political Sketch (November 3) wonders why MPs seem to regard "disclosure" and "discouragement" as interchangeable in this context. Perhaps because they recognise that such disclosures are only ever likely to be used to disparage them.

Yours faithfully,
JULIA HALL,
1 Church End, Coton, Cambridge.
November 3.

From Mr Andrew Rowe, MP for Mid Kent (Conservative)

Sir, I write about your report (November 4) of the Parkinson school for young Conservative hopefuls.

I realise that my brilliant career, spent entirely on the back benches, will not persuade any of them that I have anything useful to say, but I have one suggestion to make. Instead of spending a weekend learning how to answer questions, they could try answering the questions people actually ask and give their own ideas in the answer. My perception is that, far more important to the reputation of MPs than anything being dealt with by Lord Nolan, is the public's view that we never address the question we have been asked and fudge the answer.

Trying to answer questions directly and honestly would make it clear to the questioner that the MP recognises that the member of the public is intelligent and perhaps very well informed. It would also open up clear blue water between the Conservatives and the new Labour Party of Peter Mandelson and the spin doctors, who seem hell-bent on ensuring that Labour politicians become even better than the other parties at not answering questions directly.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW ROWE,
House of Commons.
November 4.

From Mr Michael Ivens

Sir, What does not emerge in your leader on the Nolan report (November 2) and the accompanying letters is that most MPs are willing to take up issues without payment if they agree with them.

In the many years that I have been associated with Aims of Industry we have never been asked for fees by MPs — nor offered them. We have found considerable help when the MP has belief in the justice of the case. When the issue has been a free-enterprise one the unpaid MPs have usually been Tories.

However, when I was the very much unpaid and honorary political adviser to the junior hospital doctors we had considerable and unpaid help from Labour MPs such as Eric Moonman and Albert Booth.

The unsleazy behaviour and values of most MPs needs stressing.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL IVENS,
49 Ordnance Hill, NW8.
November 2.

From Mr Kenneth J. Ball

Sir, The disclosure of commissions imposed by the Government upon the financial services profession from January 1, 1995, is not all that dissimilar to the Nolan Committee's recommendations for MPs' interests.

Disclosure has certainly not been the disaster to the financial services that was prophesied.

What justification do MPs have for withholding their own interests from public knowledge, when they were readily agreeable to impose these measures on independent financial advisers, who are also strongly regulated in any event?

Yours faithfully,
K. J. BALL,
K. J. Ball Financial Services,
Druerie House, 7 Fircroft Close,
Stoke Heath,
Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.
November 2.

From Mr Peter Raby

Sir, His Honour Judge Morrell (letter, November 2) has a wonderfully patrician idea of our law-makers. He implies that £72,524 a year would be reasonable for their "service", enabling them to send their children to private school while their partners would not need to seek "paid employment".

One good reason for MPs being paid a relatively modest salary is that it may keep them more in touch with the circumstances of most of their electorate. The same argument could be applied to judges.

Yours faithfully,
PETER RABY,
71 Commercial End,
Swaffham Bulbeck,
Cambridge.
November 2.

Art and taste

From Mr John Godden

Sir, John Pittuck (letter, November 1) proclaims the right of artists not "to pander to public taste". That is a tenable view, but surely those who hold it should not expect that public subsidy to the arts be so largely confined, as it seems at present, to those artists who openly despise the taste of the taxpayers.

Such artists should, surely, look rather to private patronage of people who appreciate those who seek notoriety — as fatal an aim for artists who wish their reputations to endure as is "pandering to public taste". Both mistake passing fashion for artistic integrity.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN GODDEN,
8 Currie Street, Hertford.

From Mr Keith Parkin

Sir, The approved art of Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin was "unbelievably saccharine", writes Richard Cork ("The power and the vainglory", Arts, October 31). That is generally true, but better saccharine than the banalities foisted on us now.

Today's powerhouse of art only differs in the category of personnel wielding power. We now have the impositions of the Arts Council and a clique of curators and their acolytes.

The art they champion is the personification of vacuity. Its aesthetic poverty needs all the pompous propaganda with which they are so richly endowed. Art worthy of the name speaks for itself.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH PARKIN,
4 Kents Bottom, Yatton Keynell,
Chippenham, Wiltshire.

Farm subsidies

From the Chairman of the Countryside Commission

Sir, The Countryside Commission shares the caution expressed by Professor Peters (letter, October 31) about the future of the common agricultural policy. We believe that the current system of blanket commodity subsidies for farmers works against the interests of the countryside and the attraction of environmental schemes.

Together with the Government's other agencies, we are looking for approaches to CAP reform that will benefit the countryside and farmers in areas of real need.

Specifically, we think that environmental schemes such as Countryside Stewardship, whereby grants are made to restore or preserve landscapes, should be substantially expanded. The challenge now is to make common cause with our partners in Europe to fashion agreed policies for the future of our rural areas.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD SIMMONDS, Chairman,
Countryside Commission,
John Dower House, Crescent Place,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

From the President of the Country Landowners Association

Sir, The situation in rural England today is vastly different from that of the depressed years of the 1930s described in Professor Peters's letter. Agriculture now represents less than 10 per cent of the rural economy. There are many thousands of new business ventures which have sprung up, both on and off the farm.

Some are related to tourism and leisure; many stem from recent developments in communication and technology; while the vast majority are small manufacturing or service industries which are sited in the countryside simply because of the quality of life to be found there.

As one who served on the Minister's common agricultural policy review group this summer, I can assure the professor that there was no intention of abandoning the countryside to the dismal conditions of the 1930s. There is every intention of increasing the budget for schemes to manage the countryside to higher standards.

We are arguing for every farm to be able to apply for contracts for the positive management of habitats and the countryside including, where appropriate, an increased provision for public access. For many farmers, especially those in the uplands, these contracts would involve the obligation to continue to manage their land through agriculture.

The main reason why the current production support system is detrimental to the environment is because it represents unfair competition to such land management contracts. A levelling of the budgets between production support and stewardship would have a positive effect on rural England rather than the negative picture painted by the professor.

Yours sincerely,
EWEN CAMERON, President,
Country Landowners Association,
16 Belgrave Square, SW1.

20,000 across and still moving on

From Mr Richard Morse

Sir, Congratulations on your 20,000th crossword, but shame on you for your leader's half-hearted and trivialising praise thereof ("In crossword country", October 31)! Thanks to the creative discipline of the setters and the corrective discipline of the crossword editors, *The Times* crossword is a great British institution that has achieved modernity, popularity and stimulation without compromising its precision, consistency or wit.

Other national institutions would do well to note that this is a way to win public respect. Long may it continue.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD MORSE,
21 Scarsdale Villas, W8.
November 1.

From Mr David Akenhead

Sir, John Grant's modesty does him credit (retirement article, October 30). As one privy to the workings of compilers' minds through my father Edmund's association as Crossword Editor (1965-83), I feel sure that on this occasion at least he will not mind if I break the anonymity rule. Lest we forget, he can claim responsibility for:

A loss Rosemary should not suffer (7): AMNESIA.

Bears with expressions of contempt (5): POOHS.

There is no point in this coarse piece (6,8): VULGAR FRACTION.

— in the very best traditions of *The Times* Crossword.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID AKENHEAD,
51 Manor Lane, SE13.
November 3.

Childcare checks

From Mr Terence W. Wiseman

Sir, A new charity, led by the head of the British Association of Social Workers, states that extra controls and improved vetting procedures are needed to save thousands of children from sexual abuse by people working with children (report, November 1).

Our local authority social services inspection department has recently informed us that it will no longer organise police-record checks for the staff of our private nursery school. As a private concern we do not have access to criminal records and have now lost an essential part of our staff-vetting procedures.

Yours faithfully,
TERENCE W. WISEMAN
(Co-proprietor),
Conway House Kindergarten,
Kilnwell Road,
Market Rasen, Lincolnshire.
November 1.

Youthful editors

From Mrs Betty Thomson

Sir, John Diamond is wrong to assert ("Editors get younger — but readers are older", Media and Marketing, October 25) that Hugh Cudlipp, who became editor of *The Sunday Pictorial* in 1937 at the age of 24, was the only one to "buck the elderly trend".

My father, Francis Williams, became editor of *The Daily Herald* in 1936, aged 33; and three years before that Arthur Christiansen was made editor of *The Daily Express* at the age of 29. So it seems as if the pre-war trend was really towards youth, not age.

Yours faithfully,
BETTY THOMSON,
27 Haverfield Gardens,
Kew, Richmond, Surrey.
October 27.

Stone Age diet

From Lady Lea

Sir, Surely Mr Anthony Legge (letter, November 1) realises that the thrifty palaeolithic cave wife set fire to the fat so that she could see to eat the lean meat.

Sincerely,
PAT LEA,
Springfield,
27 Bright's Lane,
Hayling Island, Hampshire.
November 2.

Blowing in the wind

From Mr Werner Schluep

Sir, Increasing the air flow in a greenhouse to 1,000cm a second or 22mph (report, October 28) sounds even better than genetic engineering.

The tomato plants I grow in my greenhouse have enough difficulty standing upright at 0mph. At 22mph do they become vines?

How are they pollinated? Any insect would have to exceed the wind speed before reaching the small unscented, unappetising tomato flower.

Nevertheless, I wish to keep up with science and will apply for a commercial electricity supply to my greenhouse. I will fit some redundant electric motor above the door to provide the fan and 22mph wind. I will nail down, and mark with my postcode, all the parts of my greenhouse. I will plant my tomatoes next year and switch on.

Yours sincerely,
W. SCHLUEP,
84 Wickham Way, Beckenham, Kent.
November 2.

COURT CIRCULAR

GOVERNMENT HOUSE — WELLINGTON

November 4: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh today visited Christchurch and were received by Dr Morgan Fahey (Deputy Mayor of Christchurch).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness this morning visited Tait Electronics and were received by the Hon Jenny Shipley MP (Minister of Health and Women's Affairs) and Mr Angus Tait (Managing Director).

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh later attended Divine Service at Christchurch Cathedral and were received by the Dean (the Very Reverend John Bluck) and the Bishop of Christchurch (the Right Reverend Dr David Coles).

Her Majesty subsequently opened Christchurch Cathedral Visitors' Centre.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh afterwards travelled by Tramcar from Cathedral Square to Victoria Square.

Her Majesty, with His Royal Highness, subsequently honoured the Deputy Mayor of Christchurch with her presence at Luncheon in the Town Hall.

The Queen, escorted by the Deputy Mayor, this afternoon walked to Victoria Square Amphitheatre and viewed school children performing cultural and sporting activities.

The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon viewed the harness making factory at Zilco Products (NZ) Limited.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

November 4: The Prince Edward this morning returned to RAF Northolt from Germany.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE WELLINGTON

November 5: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by Her Excellency Dame Catherine Tizard (Governor-General), this morning attended a Service of Thanksgiving in Wellington Cathedral of St Paul and were received by the Dean of Wellington (the Very Reverend Michael Brown) and the Primate and Archbishop (the Most Reverend Brian Davis).

Her Majesty afterwards unveiled the Tower Foundation Stone.

The Queen, with The Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by the Governor-General, later laid a Wreath at the National War Memorial, Wellington, and commissioned the Bourdon Peace Bell.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness, with Her Excellency, were received by the Hon Warren Cooper MP (Minister of Defence and Internal Affairs) and Sir Patrick O'Dea (Chairman, National War Memorial Advisory Council).

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening gave a Dinner for members of the New Zealand Executive Council and their spouses at Government House.

KENSINGTON PALACE

November 5: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, this evening presented Awards to winners of the British Youth Band Championships at Wembley Arena, Wembley.

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE

November 5: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this morning visited the Itaipu Dam and Hydroelectric Plant, Parana State, Brazil.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

November 5: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy and attended by the Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox, today left Heathrow Airport, London, to carry out engagements in New York at the invitation of the American Associates of the Royal Academy.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess of Wales, as Patron of *Help the Aged*, will present the 1995 Help the Aged Tunstall Golden Awards at the London Hilton on Park Lane at 12.30.

Princess Margaret will attend a reception and luncheon for the Northumbria branch of the British Red Cross at Blagdon Hall, Seaton Burn, Newcastle upon Tyne, at 12.15 to mark the conclusion of the society's 125th birthday year.

The Duke of Gloucester will open an exhibition by Ukranian artists at the Cork Street Gallery, W1, at 7.00.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, will attend the Christmas Market preview at the Royal Horticultural New Hall, Vincent Square, SW1, at 6.30.

Birthdays today

Sir John Allen, chairman, Housing for Wales, 67; Lord Avonside, 81; Professor J.P. Barber, Master, Hatfield College, Durham University, 64; Professor Lord Bauer, 80; Mr James T. Bowman, countertenor, 54; Mr Frank Carson, comedian, 69; Mr C.A. Christopher, trade unionist, 63; Mr David Exham, Headmaster, Blotham School, 51; Miss Sally Field, actress, 49; Mr K.B. Griffin, economist, 47; Mr Nigel Havers, actor, 44; Mr Bernat Klein, designer, 73; Mr Leonard Miall, research historian, 81; Mr David Montgomery, chief executive, Mirror Group Newspapers, 47; Admiral Sir Anthony Morton, 72; Mr Mike Nichols, film director, 64; General Sir David Ramsbotham, 61; Professor Sir Martin Roth, psychiatrist, 78; Sir Oliver Scott, radio-biologist, 73; Major-General James Scott Elliot, 93; Sir George Sinclair, population and development advisor, 83; Mr M.T. Thyne, Headmaster, Fettes College, 53.

National Chrysanthemum Society

Cool heads wilt on the late show

BY ALAN TOOGOOD, HORTICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

CHRYSANTHEMUMS, lovers of cool conditions, did not relish the hot summer and warm autumn so it came as no surprise that bloom quality and number of entries in the National Chrysanthemum Society (NCS) late show were not as high as last year.

Welsh growers fared well at the show, held at the Royal Horticultural Society Hall in Westminster over the weekend, and scooped some of the top prizes including the Bentley Trophy for Best Exhibit. This went to Ivor Mace, of Treorchy, Mid-Glamorgan, for his exhibit of 18 large exhibition chrysanthemums which included the cultivar "Ivor Mace" (amber coloured, but with rather an untidy centre) and an outstanding bloom of "White Lancashire Fold" with beautifully formed shoulders. Winning this class, for which the centenary trophy is awarded, has made Mace the national champion for large exhibition chrysanthemums.

The Neath and District Chrysanthemum Society of Neath, West Glamorgan, have become the NCS affiliated societies' champions and they won the unique Challenge Trophy. Their exhibit included the popular large exhibition cultivar "Amber Gigantic".

The vase of the white spray chrysanthemum "Roscene" was judged best vase in show and awarded the Bikini Championship Vase of the year. It was in an exhibit of six vases of sprays staged by Roy Springthorpe, of West Hallam, Derbyshire. For these he won the Frank Rowe Challenge Trophy and gained the title National Champion for late spray chrysanthemums.

Other major trophy winners were:

Ian E Moss, of Rainhill, Merseyside, the Medium Exhibition Perpetual Trophy, and he has retained the title national champion for medium exhibition chrysanthemums (including the superb pale yellow "Tanjung Aru").

R T Pugh of Neath, West Glamorgan, the Holmes Memorial Challenge Cup, and acknowledged the national champion for late incurved chrysanthemums.

Derek Bircumshaw, of Oadby, Leicestershire, the George Prickett Challenge Trophy, and acknowledged the national champion for late reflexed and intermediate chrysanthemums (his bloom of deep velvety crimson "Doreen Statham" was a show stopper).

P E Smith of West Bergholt, Essex, the George Monro Challenge Cup, and acknowledged the national champion for late flowering large single chrysanthemums (he included the very old and rarely seen red "Terry Morris").

R Davies of Wokingham, Berkshire, the George W Tarry perpetual trophy, and acknowledged national champion for late medium single chrysanthemums.

Arthur J Munday, of Plymouth, Devon, a perpetual trophy, and acknowledged the national champion for late anemone chrysanthemums (he included the distinctive deep gold and copper "Macetta Sunrise").

Memorial services

Sir Grahame Clark

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir Grahame Clark, archaeologist and former Master of Peterhouse, Cambridge, was held on Saturday at the Church of St Mary the Less, Trumpington Street, Cambridge. The Rev Dr Graham Ward, Dean of Peterhouse, officiated. Professor Edward Kenney, Emeritus Professor of Classics, Cambridge University, and the Rev Anders Bergquist read the lessons. Professor Thurstan Shaw read *The Phenomenon of Man* by Teilhard de Chardin. Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn gave and address.

Mr R.W. Hamilton

A memorial service for Mr Robert William Hamilton, former Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, was held on Saturday at St Peter's, Westleton, Suffolk. The Rev R.J. Ginn officiated and gave an address. Mrs Jane Purcell and Mrs Penelope Fairclough, daughters, read the lessons.

Professor Sir David Smithers

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Professor Sir David Smithers of The Royal Marsden Hospital will be held on Wednesday, November 29, at noon, at St Luke's Church, Sydney Street, Chelsea, SW3.

Reception

The Institute of Masters of Wine

The Annual Reception of The Institute of Masters of Wine was held on Wednesday, November 1, at Vintners' Hall, by permission of the Master and Court of The Vintners' Company. The Executive Director of The Institute, Mr John Casson, MW, presided. The Master of The Vintners' Company, Mr Quentin Morgan Edwards, presented certificates to the successful candidates in this year's Examination. Mr Sebastian Payne, MW, Chairman of The Institute, welcomed members and their guests and gave a résumé of the Institute's current activities and its plans for the future.

Nature notes

BIRDS are gathering to feed in fields of rough grass. A jay hides itself where the grass is longest; magpies walk about openly, their tails lifted high. Redwings stand quietly, listening for the sound of movement in the earth, as starlings scurry round them. Pied wagtails jump up and down to catch flies; a cautious song thrush ventures out a yard or two from the hedge. Trees are now rapidly changing colour, and small leaves dropping through the foliage patter like rain. Oak trees are dappled with green and brown, sweet chestnuts with green and yellow. On hornbeams, the dark clusters of seeds stand out against the bright yellow leaves, and will soon be spinning down. On wild cherries, the leaves are purple, scarlet and orange. Under beech trees, the scattered brown nuts lie thick among the hairy grey shells: many of the nuts are unusually plump this year. On alder trees, the long, hanging catkins are green on one side, purple on the other. The four-petalled yellow flowers of tormentil can still be found in the grass on the sheltered side of woods. Late wasps are feeding on ivy flowers while large hoverflies still glide over the Michaelmas daisies. DJM



The pied wagtail

Bancroft's School, Essex

The Worshipful Company of Drapers is pleased to announce that Dr Peter Scott has been appointed as the new Head Master of Bancroft's School, Woodford Green. Dr Scott is currently the Deputy Head Master of the Royal Grammar School, Guildford, and takes up his new position in September, 1996. He replaces Dr Peter Southern who has been appointed Head Master of Christ's Hospital, West Sussex.

Institute of Horticulture

Mr Peter Thoday has been installed as president of the institute. Fellowships have been awarded to: Dr Sinclair Mantell, Reader in Horticulture at Wye College, London University; Dr Malcolm Sargent, Lecturer at Bath University; Mrs Joyce Stewart recently appointed Director of Horticulture for the Royal Horticultural Society.

Service dinners

Ayrshire Yeomanry Association

Major R.Y. Henderson, Lord Lieutenant of Ayrshire and Arran, and Honorary Colonel of the Ayrshire Squadron of The Scottish Yeomanry, presided at the annual dinner of the Officers, serving and retired, of the Ayrshire (Earl of Carrick's Own) Yeomanry Association held on Saturday at Yeomanry House, Ayr.

RAF Halton

Air Commodore P. Ayee presided at the 89th Entry RAF Halton 1958 reunion dinner of No 1 School of Technical Training (Lord Trenchard's BRATS) held on Saturday at Ripley Castle, Harrogate.

Church news

Retirement

Prebendary Basil Jenkyns, Vicar, Overbury w Teddington, Alstone and Little Washbourne w Beckford and Ashton-under-Hill (Worcester): retired October 31.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.J. Given and Miss E.J. Capell

The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Given, of Walkern, Hertfordshire, and Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Capell, of Shedfield, Hampshire.

Mr R.J.R. Paice and Miss R.H.F. McCormick

The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr and Mrs David Paice, of Solihull, West Midlands, and Rosie, daughter of Mr and Mrs John McCormick, of Fleet, Hampshire.

Mr M.B. Williams and Miss A.N. Peterson

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mrs Patricia Williams, of Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, and Angela, daughter of the Rev Dwight Peterson and Mrs Donna Peterson, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA.

Marriage

Mr J.G. Smith and the Hon Doone White

The marriage took place on Saturday in the Chapel of St Mary Undercroft, Palace of Westminster, of Mr Julian Smith, only son of Mr and Mrs Antony Smith, of Orcheston, Wiltshire, to the Hon Doone White, elder daughter of the late Lord Annaly and Mrs Jennifer Smith-Bingham, of Corton, Wiltshire. Canon Donald Gray, Chaplain to the Speaker, officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Lord Annaly, was attended by the Hon Lavinia White, Amy Astor, the Hon Iona White, Camilla Medd, Isabella Adams, Jake Goedhuis, the Hon Luke White and George Smyly. Mr William Francklin was best man.

A reception was held at the Berkeley Hotel and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Pipers raise a glass to ten of the best

BY ANGUS NICOL

BLAIR CASTLE, seat of the Dukes of Atholl, was the venue for the 22nd Glenfiddich Piping Championship recently. The event, founded in 1974 by William Grant & Sons, aims to find the best overall exponents of *ceol mor* and *ceol beag* from the ten pipers invited to compete.

The championship had an international flavour, since it included a piper from each of Canada and the United States, and two from New Zealand, one of whom, Murray Henderson, has lived in Scotland for more than 20 years.

One piper had a great misfortune when one of his drone reeds blew out in the first bar of his tune. But there were tunes worth hearing among the remaining nine.

The first prize for piobaireachd was won by Murray Henderson, who has won the overall championship four times. He gave an excellent performance of the *Lament for Padruig Og MacCrimmon*, the famous tune composed by Ian Dall MacKay on hearing the erroneous news of Padruig Og's death. Padruig Og not only heard his former pupil, Iain Dall, play the tune, but later played it himself.

This first prize for piobaireachd also includes the Highland Society of London's trophy. Angus MacColl, of the famous Argyll family of pipers, who came third overall last year, gave a fine performance of *Ronald MacDonald of Morar's Lament*, to take second place. William MacCallum played *The Battle of Auldearn (No 2)*. His vigorous performance, appropriate to a battle tune, gained him third place.

The well-known tune, *I got a Kiss of the King's Hand*, was composed by Padraig Mór MacCrimmon after his presentation by his Chief, MacLeod, to the King in 1651 after the battle of Worcester. Roderick MacLeod played this tune to win fourth prize for piobaireachd.

Captain Greg Wilson, from New Zealand, played another tune from Skye, though not attributed to any particular MacCrimmon, *The Lament for MacSwan of Roaig*, with which he took fifth prize.

The *ceol beag* part of the championship took place in the afternoon. First prize was won by Angus MacColl, with a formidable set: *The Argyllshire Gathering*, *The Cameronian Rant*, and *Charlie's Welcome*. This also won him the Redfearn Trophy.

Corporal Gordon Walker, of the Royal Highland Fusiliers, came second with *The Braes of Castle Grant*, *Susan MacLeod* and *Mrs MacPherson of Inveran*. Pipe Major Alasdair Gillies, the first pipe major of the first battalion of The Highlanders, took third prize, playing *John MacDonald's Welcome to South Uist*, *John Roy Stewart*, and *John MacKechnie*.

Roderick MacLeod took another fourth place, with *Hugh Kennedy*, *The Shepherd's Crook*, and *The Smith of Chilliechassie*. In fifth place, William MacCallum played *Clan MacColl*, *The Caledonian Society of London*, and *Loch Carron*.

The overall winner of the championship and the Glenfiddich Trophy was, therefore, Angus MacColl, with Murray Henderson second and William MacCallum third.

The prizes were presented by the Duke of Atholl.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: James Gregory, inventor of the reflecting telescope, Aberdeen, 1638; Colley Cibber, actor-manager and dramatist, London, 1671; Alois Senefelder, inventor of lithography, Prague, 1771; Henry Hunt, political reformer, Upavon, Wiltshire, 1773; Adolphe Sax, inventor of the saxophone, Dinant, Belgium, 1814; Richard Jefferies, naturalist, near Swindon, 1848; John Philip Sousa, the 'March King', composer and band conductor, Washington, 1854; Ignace Paderewski, pianist, composer and Prime Minister of Poland 1919, Kurylówka, 1860; Sir John Alcock, aviator, Manchester, 1892.

DEATHS: Heinrich Schütz, composer, Dresden, 1672; William Hone, writer, London, 1842; Sir Charles Napier, admiral, 1860; Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, composer, St Petersburg, 1893; Kate Greenaway, artist and book illustrator, London, 1901; William Gully, 1st Viscount Selby, Speaker of the House of Commons 1895-1905, Seaford, Sussex, 1909; Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson, actor-manager, St Margaret's Bay, Kent, 1937.

Abraham Lincoln was elected 16th American President (1861-65), 1860.

The first hydrogen bomb was exploded at Eniwetok Atholl in the Pacific by the United States, 1952.

Borders between East and West Germany were thrown open, 1989.

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The Most High does not live in houses made by men; as the prophet says: "Heaven is my throne and earth my footstool".
Acts of the Apostles 7 : 48, 49 (REB)

BIRTHS

BIRKETT - On October 30th, to Suzanne (née Webber) and Richard, a daughter, Imogen Claire, a sister for Jamie and Robbie.

PERCY - On November 4th to Dominique (née de Bellefroid) and Tim a son Harry.

WILLIAMS - On 3rd November 1995 at Queen Charlotte's, London, to Charlotte (née Syms) and Michael, a son James Mark.

WORSLEY - On November 2nd at St Mary's, Paddington, to Marie-Noëlle and William, a son, Marcus William Bernard.

WRIGHT - On 1st November, to Michael and Ursula (née Calver), a son, Charles Jonathan Peter, a brother for Alexander, Olivia and Camilla.

MARRIAGES

BOWER - John to Huiten (née Yang) of Beijing. On Thursday 26th October 1995 in Croyden Registry office.

DEATHS

BATES - Nlld (Marie Françoise Nicole) died suddenly of a heart attack 1 November 1995 in Harare. Most adored wife of Ian and mother of Caroline, Richard and Dominique. Beloved sister in law of Carol and Mark and dearly loved by all family and friends.

HAWES - Joseph Robert (Joe) of Woburn Sands died peacefully on November 2nd aged 92 years. Beloved husband of the late Phyllis and much loved father of Shirley. Requiem Mass at St Mary's Catholic Church, Woburn Sands on Tuesday November 7th at 10.30am. Family flowers only please, donations to Willen Hospice, Milton Keynes.

KEY - On 3 November, Grace Margery (née Atcherley), aged 90, Mother of Sam. Funeral at Bishopthorpe crematorium, York, Wednesday 8 November at 11am. Undertakers York Cooprative Society (01904 643836).

KING - Vivien (Bob) Averil. On November 3rd, suddenly at home aged 64. Much loved by her daughters Antonia and Virginia, her eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Funeral Service at 12 noon at East Chiltington Church, nr. Lewes, East Sussex, on Saturday 11th November. Flowers, if wished, to R.A Brooks & Son, Allington Road, Newick, East Sussex. Tel:(01825) 722 895.

LONGLEY - On 2nd November 1995, Margot Longley, widow of the late Henry Longley, much loved by her family and many friends. Private funeral, family flowers only.

MASON - On November 1st 1995 peacefully in her sleep at Harlech (formerly of Penrhyndeudraeth Wales) aged 88 years, Margaret Mary, sadly missed by all her family. Funeral Service on Thursday November 9th at Holy Trinity Church, Penrhyndeudraeth. Interment at Minffordd Cemetery. Flowers accepted. Enquiries Gwyn Williams Funeral Director, 16 Ty Canol, Harlech, Gwynedd, tel: (01766) 780405.

OLIVER - Anthony. On 2nd November 1995, aged 73 years. A much loved friend of Peter. Funeral Service St Mary Abbots Church, Kensington, on Friday 10th November at 11.30 am followed by private cremation. All flowers and enquiries to J.H. Kenyon Ltd. tel: (0171) 937-0757.

PASK - Alun. Tragically on Wednesday 1st November 1995 at his home in Blackwood, Gwent. Alun former Welsh Rugby Team Captain and British Lion. A dearly loved and devoted husband and father. Funeral Wednesday 8th November. Service at St. Augustines Church Pontllanfraith Gwent at 2.15 pm followed by cremation at Gwent Crematorium. Strictly Family Flowers only please. Donations in lieu if desired for Cancer Research Velindre Hospital c/o Mr R. Pask, 2 Lon Pennant, Cwmgelli, Blackwood, Gwent. Further inquiries telephone 01495 224775.

QUINCEY - Richard on 1st November 1995. Dear husband of Joan, father of Meyrick and Paul and beloved grandpa. Enquiries to Funeral Directors 01892 827812.

ROBINSON - On 2 November Charles William Peyton. Funeral service at Golders Green 9 November at 12.45.

SCOTT - William John Marsh suddenly after a short illness on November 3 1995. Much loved husband and precious father to Timothy, Susie, Peter and Kel. Grandpa to Emily, Tom, Edward, Dorothy, Leopold, Felix, Bertie and Flora. Funeral at St Giles Church, Uley, Glos on Wednesday 8 November at 2.00pm followed by private cremation. No flowers but donations may be sent to The British Heart Foundation, c/o Philip Ford & Son Funeral Directors Ltd, 54 Silver St, Dursley, Glos.

SMYTH - Frances Penelope (Pop) died peacefully at Queen Mary's Hospital on 2nd November 1995. Dearly loved widow of Vere Stainer Wallace Smyth and mother of David and Tim. Funeral Service Friday November 10th at 12 noon at Putney Vale Crematorium. Flowers to Mears & Cotterill, 169 Merton Road, London SW18 5EF, tel: (0181) 874-7698.

TALBOT - Montague on November 1st 1995 in hospital. Monty, much loved husband of the late Vi and dear brother-in-law, uncle and great-uncle. Funeral Service and cremation will be held at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead on Monday November 13th at 2 pm. Flowers/enquiries to F.W. Chitty Funeral Directors, 26 Brassey House, New Zealand Avenue, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 1QD, tel: (01932) 264265.

THOMPSON COON - Montague of Blakeeley, near Towcester, Northamptonshire, on 31st October following a long illness courageously borne.

VERRIER - Pierre Gaston. On 2nd November after a long illness, aged 59 years. Beloved husband and father. Donations to Multiple Sclerosis Society c/o Lodge Brothers and Wickenden, 1 Avenue Road, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 9NS. Tel: (0181) 567 0227.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BLACKBURNE - Freda and family wish to thank their many friends for their support and letters following Bishop Hugh's death and for all contributions to his memorial fund which will be divided between his favourite charities.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

OPPÉ - Frederick. A Memorial Service will be held at Chelsea Old Church on Monday 27th November at 2.30 pm.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

TONY PURDY
Journalist and Author
who died suddenly
this day last year.
Remembered with great
love and affection by
his family. Joined in
Heaven by his beloved
sister Judy.
May they rest in Peace

CHANDLER - Edwin George Chandler C.B.E., on 6th November 1991. Deeply loved and sadly missed by Iris.

THOMPSON - Hilda, daughter of the late Rev. Dr. A.J. Westcott and widow of Sir Geoffrey Harington Thompson, GBE KCMG. Died on 6th November 1995. Very sadly missed by her brother Graham and his family in Oxford. R.I.P.

THOMPSON - (Lady) Hilda A., died 6th November 1995. For I am near, and will restore all things, not only completely, but generously and in full measure. (Thomas a Kempis: The Imitation of Christ).

YOUNG - Frank 8/11/92, Always in my life. Morag.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

LAWSON - Ernest. A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Ernest Lawson will be held on Sunday 19th November 1995 at 6 pm at the New West End Synagogue, St Petersburgh Place, London W2. Friends will be welcome after the service at 1 Eaton Mansions, Cliveden Place, London SW1.

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OBITUARIES

YITZHAK RABIN

Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel, was assassinated on November 4 aged 73. He was born on March 1, 1922.

When Yitzhak Rabin was attending the British Army's staff college at Camberley in the early 1950s, its commandant, who had served in Palestine during the British Mandate, held a cocktail party for his foreign students. Among them was a Jordanian officer to whom he spoke fondly of army leaves spent duck shooting in the Jordan valley. Then he turned to his Israeli guest. "Of course," he said, "it was different in Palestine. I was the duck and you were doing the shooting."

Yitzhak Rabin, the teenage guerrilla once interned by the British, who went on to mastermind the Six Day War and become his country's first native-born Prime Minister, was the man who shook hands with Yassir Arafat on the south lawn of the White House. He was also the Minister of Defence who confronted the intifada, the Palestinian uprising, by urging his men to "break the bones" of the youthful stone-throwers. When the Opposition accused him of being soft on Palestinians, it had a very hollow ring. Rabin was Israel's "Mr Security". He was probably the only Israeli politician who could have risked making peace with Arafat.

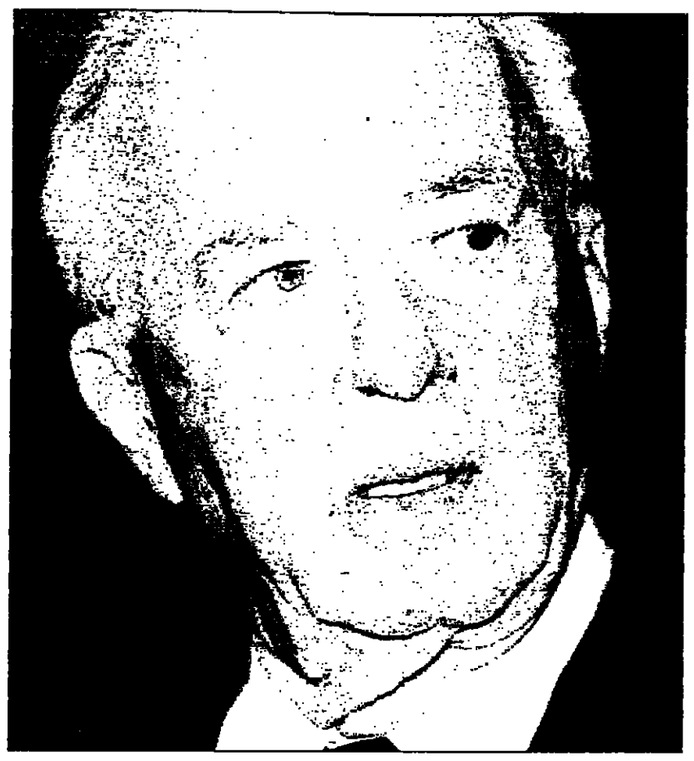
They went on to share the plaudits — including the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize. The imprint left on the political map of the Middle East by this dour, taciturn Israeli soldier was considerable. It earned him respect and admiration well beyond the somewhat elastic borders of his country. "I grew extremely fond of him though he did little to encourage affection," Henry Kissinger recalled in his memoirs.

Yitzhak Rabin was born in Jerusalem four years after General Allenby had ended 500 years of Turkish rule in Palestine, which then became a British Mandate. Rabin's mother was living in Haifa but came to Jerusalem because she had well-off relatives there who could look after her. Both his parents were Russian-born Jews and socialist Zionists, though from very different class backgrounds.

His father, Nehemiah Robichov, was born into the direst poverty in the Pale of Settlement. In 1904, aged 18, he emigrated to Chicago where he worked as a tailor and became a Zionist. He came to Palestine towards the end of the Second World War as part of a British-officered Jewish infantry battalion recruited in America to serve under Allenby. Robichov became Rabin after he failed his first medical test and scraped through at another recruiting station using his *nom de guerre*. When the war ended Corporal Rabin chose to be discharged in Palestine in accordance with Lord Balfour's famous 1917 declaration that Britain would support a homeland for the Jews there, so long as it did not affect the rights of the indigenous population.

Rabin's mother was born Rosa Cohen, the daughter of a rabbi strongly opposed to Zionism, an assimilated Jew who, while making no secret of his religious beliefs, moved easily among the aristocracy and was an adviser to a Russian princess. Rosa defied her father and attended the local Christian Gymnasium, supported the 1917 revolution but then fell out with the Bolsheviks. When she arrived in Palestine Rosa was not a convinced Zionist. But, once she became one, she did so with an uncompromising commitment that seems to have left most people who met her bobbing in her wake.

Yitzhak Rabin's early life was spent in Tel Aviv, where his mother was a city councillor, a trade union official concerned with workers' welfare and also a fund-raiser for the secret Haganah defence force. While she rushed about the city — and rarely had time to take meals with her children — her easier-going husband, who worked for the Palestine Electric Corporation, would sometimes be found doing the household chores in their austere two-bedroomed flat with a kitchen they shared with neighbours. Yitzhak and his sister Rehal were sent to a workers' school, unique in Palestine at that time for its progressive regimen: staff and pupils were on first name terms, had a joint disciplinary council and discussed what the curriculum should be. Rabin always looked back on these schooldays with great affection, though some school contemporaries recalled that he exhibited there the marked shyness interspersed with an awkward and brusque way of dealing with people that would dog him all his life. "Strong on strategy, weak on people," the *Jerusalem Post* once declared.



In countries where the officer corps is less admired than in Israel such traits might have kept Rabin out of politics. Not that as a young man he had even any military ambitions. He wanted to be a farmer or a scientist. His soldiering began almost by accident at Kadouri Agricultural College in the 1930s during the Palestinian Arabs' rebellion against the Mandate when the British trained and equipped Jewish Settlement Police, most of whom secretly belonged to the Jewish underground army, Haganah.

By 1941, when Haganah established a wartime truce with the British, Rabin was already a member of the Palmach, the permanently mobilised units that were the Haganah's élite force. At this point he was selected by Moshe Dayan to be part of a Palmach contingent of scouts and saboteurs who would assist Australian and British troops in the invasion of Lebanon, then controlled by the pro-German Vichy French. It was in this operation that Dayan lost his left eye. The task of Rabin's three-man squad was to sneak across the northern border into Lebanon a few hours before the invasion, cut a certain telephone line, then return to Palestine. Rabin proved to be the only one capable of climbing the pole to do this. As it turned out this was to be the sum of Rabin's active service during the Second World War.

After Montgomery's victory at El Alamein removed the threat of a German invasion of Palestine, its Jewish inhabitants were divided about how they should fight the Nazis. Some thought their cause would be best served by enlisting in Britain's armed forces — and thousands did. Rabin, though, remained in Palestine. He was among those who believed that they should prepare themselves for the inevitable postwar struggle with Britain, whose Labour Government, even as the extent of the Holocaust was slowly revealed, still preferred not to antagonise the Arabs by opening the gates of Palestine to its survivors. (A tiny minority of right-wing Zionists, notably the Stern Gang, were so incensed by this they undermined the British war effort with a terrorist campaign.)

Those who stayed behind had to resist the considerable pressure young Jewish males were put under by their own community to join up. And even if people knew what they were doing the Palmach's clandestine training schemes hardly compared with the tales filtering back to the Yishuv from the men at the war fronts. After Britain abandoned Palestine in 1948, and Israel fought its first war with its Arab neighbours, its high command was riven with doctrinal splits between battle-seasoned British Army veterans and Palmach masters of improvisation.

In 1946 Rabin commanded a Palmach raiding party which sprang about 200 Jews held in a British internment camp for illegal immigrants. Shortly afterwards he was himself interned in a camp on the Gaza Strip but released after six months. Once the Arab-Israeli fighting started in earnest his superiors, impressed by what Kissinger would later call "his analytical brilliance", put him in command of the 1,500-strong Harel Brigade. Part of Harel's task was to keep the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem road open — which, according to Rabin, was partly achieved by driving about 50,000 Arab civilians from their homes. Rabin caused a furore in Israel in 1979 when he revealed this in a passage deleted from his somewhat premature memoirs by the Israeli censors but leaked to *The New York Times*. It was the first time a senior Israeli, let alone a former Prime Minister, had ever contradicted the official line that all the Palestinian refugees created by that war had left their homes voluntarily, believing they would return after an Arab victory.

Some Israeli reviewers were equally shocked that his book did not mention his leading role in the short-lived fratricidal strife of the same period, the *Altalena* affair. Rabin was in Tel Aviv visiting Lea, a German-born member of the Palmach shortly to become his wife, who was working at the beachfront hotel Palmach was using as its HQ when he was ordered to stop the approaching ammunition ship *Altalena* from unloading. Her cargo of arms and ammunition belonged to the Irgun Zvei Leumi terrorists led by Menachem Begin who would become Israel's first right-wing Prime Minister. A UN-sponsored ceasefire forbade both Jews and Arabs from rearming and the Palmach was determined that Israel would not be seen to break it. Before it surrendered the ship was shelled and 14 of Irgun's men died.

Shortly afterwards Rabin was replaced as commander of the Harel Brigade, which had suffered heavy casualties, after some of his subordinates had complained that he was cold and aloof. But Yigal Allon, then commander of the Palmach, recognised his genius and made him his operations officer. Rabin and Allon finished the war inflicting a major defeat on the Egyptians in the Sinai. Then they went to Rhodes for the peace conference where Rabin wore a tie for the first time in his life. He was 27.

At Camberley, where he was sent by the new Israeli Government, his instructors were not impressed, and declared he was best suited for logistics work. Fortunately for Israel, his superiors ignored their assessment. When he returned he was given the Northern Command. In 1964, still only 42, he was made Chief of Staff and in the next three years transformed Israel's military capability.

In June 1967 he was mainly responsible (though afterwards Defence Minister Moshe Dayan did his best to take the credit) for the humiliating defeat Egypt, Jordan and Syria suffered in the Six Day War. He let Nasser be hoisted on the petard of his own rhetoric before seizing on the *casus belli* of the closing of the Straits of Tiran. It was he, above all, who pressed for the pre-emptive strikes that destroyed Nasser's air force in the first round. The Israelis went on to push the Jordanians out of the West Bank and the Syrians off the Golan Heights. But none of this was achieved before Rabin, bitterly opposed by some members of the Israeli Cabinet had agonised to the point of a nervous breakdown and offered to resign. Officially his collapse was blamed on "nicotine poisoning", a plausible enough diagnosis since Rabin's 60-a-day habit was well known. In later life he tended to put his condition — from which he swiftly recovered after a sedative and a long sleep — down to "exhaustion".

After the Six Day War Rabin was rewarded with the Israeli ambassadorship to Washington. Despite his lack of the normal diplomatic skills, he revelled in the job. He forged close links with President Nixon whom he admired and, in the light of the importance of Israel's relations with the United States, became *de facto* foreign minister, bypassing Abba Eban, and dealing direct with the Prime Minister Golda Meir. When both Meir and Dayan were discredited following Israel's near-defeat in the 1973 Yom Kippur War, Rabin — the hero of 1967 — was the Labour Party's natural choice of leader and became Prime Minister for the first time in 1974.

Although he laid the groundwork for peace with Egypt by negotiating a partial withdrawal from the Sinai this premiership was marred by scandals in his Cabinet — one minister killed himself — and his feud with Shimon Peres, his arch-rival within the Labour Party. Peres was Minister of Defence during the Entebbe Raid and the two got into an unedifying dispute about who originated the idea of rescuing the hostages. Rabin always did his best to portray Peres as the slippery professional politician set against his plain-spoken, blunt soldier. But in 1977 this image was severely dented when a Hebrew newspaper revealed that he and Lea had retained a joint dollar account in Washington, contrary to Israeli law. Although it contained no more than $2,000 dollars Rabin felt obliged to resign.

Some people thought his political career was finished but he made an astounding comeback, returning to government in 1984 as Defence Minister in a Likud-led coalition. He went on to wrestle the leadership of the Labour Party away from Peres and then brought Labour back into power in the 1992 election with the slogan, "Israel is waiting for Rabin", an echo of a popular Six Day War song, "Nasser is waiting for Rabin". He was 70 when he became Prime Minister for the second time.

As soon as he was back in office he set out to revive the moribund peace process which culminated in the handshake with Arafat at the White House. Some thought this his greatest triumph and it was certainly immortalised by the world's television cameras as a historic moment. But at home things were not so easy. In particular, Hamas bombers with their bus attacks tried to halt the peace process. Yet Rabin showed no signs of being ready to slow down. Indeed, for man of 73, he remained extremely active. His working day started at 6.30am and, though he continued to smoke, he also regularly played tennis with his wife.

Politically, too, he remained energetic. The spring of 1995 saw Jordan and Israel, as the initial step towards their formal peace treaty of September of this year, exchange ambassadors for the first time — another sign, he thought, that the peace process would survive him. "The cemeteries," he was fond of saying, "are full of people who thought they were indispensable." It was a typical Rabin remark but in his heart he knew he had left his own mark upon his country's history.

Yitzhak Rabin is survived by his wife Lea and one son and one daughter.

LORD BOTTOMLEY

Lord Bottomley, PC, OBE, former Labour MP, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, 1964-66, and Minister of Overseas Development, 1966-67, died on November 3 aged 88. He was born on February 7, 1907.

ARTHUR BOTTOMLEY was the kind of Labour politician that is now almost extinct. A long apprenticeship both as a trade union organiser and as a stalwart of local government brought him to Westminster in Labour's great landslide victory of 1945, the same year that saw him serving as Mayor of his native borough of Walthamstow.

Yet that did not stop him from being appointed within nine months Under-Secretary at the old Dominions Office. His real break came, however, a year later when he succeeded Harold Wilson as Secretary for Overseas Trade. Since Wilson himself had in the autumn of 1947 just taken over from Sir Stafford Cripps as President of the Board of Trade, and was thus Bottomley's immediate boss, a relationship was forged that stood the test of time for at least the next 20 years.

In a way, it was an improbable alliance. Bottomley belonged on the right wing of the party — one reason why his open support was so valuable to Wilson in the latter's contest for Labour's leadership against George Brown in February 1963. But the two men were also in many ways polar opposites. Wilson was always a politician of considerable guile, whereas Bottomley took pride in presenting a face of almost touching simplicity to the world. Yet he became one of his leader's most loyal lieutenants, a relationship that was only broken — with, it is said, tears at least on Bottomley's side — when in 1967, having already ejected him from his Cabinet, Wilson required his resignation from the Government.

By then, of course, it was clear that Bottomley had failed in his allotted task of trying to get Ian Smith of Rhodesia to see reason. This was all the greater blow as before Smith's unilateral declaration of independence of November 1965, he had chosen to give the impression that their talks were making headway. An overtly friendly figure, Bottomley always set great store on the healing power of smiling, personal contact. This approach — a confidence that sensible men should always be able to reach an understanding, given goodwill on each side — could not save him, once UDI was declared, from looking gullible.



Arthur George Bottomley was born in Walthamstow and was one of the old-style socialists who came up the hard way. He augmented his council school education by attending university extension lectures at Toynbee Hall. He worked on the railways before becoming a union organiser for the National Union of Public Employees (NUPE). At 21 he was elected to Walthamstow Borough Council. Important support in his political career came with his marriage in 1936 to Bessie Wiles, who was to have her own, varied public career (and was appointed DBE as Dame Bessie Bottomley in 1970).

Bottomley's wartime work — he was controller of air raid precautions in London and was particularly active during the Blitz, being appointed OBE in 1941 — provided a useful administrative background for his later posts in government. He first got into Parliament in 1945 as Labour MP for the Chatham division of Rochester (the seat was to become Rochester and Chatham in 1950 and Bottomley, an admirably assiduous constituency MP, was miraculously to hold onto it until 1959). He then had three miserable years out of Parliament — being forced to go back and work in a rather menial capacity for his old union, NUPE — until in the spring of 1962 he secured the by-election nomination for the safe Labour seat of Middlesbrough East.

Although he never got back into the Shadow Cabinet — as a Privy Counsellor he had been an elected member of it in the late 1950s — that did not inhibit Wilson from appointing him to his actual Cabinet as Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations when he formed his Government in October 1964.

Bottomley loved promoting Commonwealth trade and he enjoyed the overseas travel that went with the job. Incongruously, he was a pioneer, too, of advocating links with Europe, having written a pamphlet, *Why Britain Should Join the Common Market*, as early as 1959.

He was not a notably original thinker on the evolution of the Commonwealth, but his extensive travel — and extensive reading — made him knowledgeable. He was to continue to contribute to the world of Commonwealth relations long after his retirement from his party's front bench, being particularly active in the work of such bodies as the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and taking an especial interest in Burma, Pakistan and India.

But in his period of high office, dealing with such a devious character as Ian Smith put a strain even on Bottomley's bonhomie. This was revealed when after UDI he suddenly changed his tune and announced that the Rhodesian Prime Minister, whom he said he now knew to have lied to him, was not a man to be trusted.

In 1966 Bottomley was replaced by the former Leader of the House, Herbert Bowden, and he became Minister of Overseas Development outside the Cabinet. It was clear to most of his colleagues that his career was on the downward slope and it was no surprise — except to him — when he was sacked a year later (as an act of unusual indulgence on Wilson's part, he was permitted to keep his lavish ministerial flat in Admiralty House for a number of months).

Returning to the back benches, he became chairman of the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration at one of the most testing periods in that controversial field. In 1976 he was chairman of a special committee on House of Commons services and from 1980 to 1983, as befitted a by now very senior MP, he was chairman of the House of Commons Commission.

Raised to the peerage as a life peer in 1984, Bottomley never quite took to life in the Upper House. He attended frequently but made little impact and was generally heard to better advantage at the various national day dinners of Commonwealth countries. Characteristically, the volume of memoirs that he privately published in 1986 was called *Commonwealth Comrades and Friends*.

He is survived by his wife Dame Bessie Bottomley. There were no children of the marriage.

MARTI CAINE

Marti Caine, comedienne, died from cancer on November 4 aged 50. She was born Lynne Shepherd in Sheffield, Yorkshire, on January 26, 1945.

A VIVACIOUS comedienne, actress and singer, Marti Caine first came to prominence when she won the television talent show *New Faces* in 1975. At the time she was one of the few female stand-up comics in what was essentially a male-dominated area. Her humour was barbed and earthy, in part reflecting her tough upbringing in the North of England where she learnt her trade in the cut and thrust atmosphere of working men's clubs.

Although she turned herself into a highly successful television performer, it was the repartee of the live show where she was most inimitably herself. Tall and pencil slim, with a shock of red hair that was her trademark at the height of her career, she became noted for her spectacular figure-hugging dresses that often left next to nothing to the imagination.

But in 1988 it was revealed that she was suffering from cancer of the lymphoid cells. Her brave battle against the disease was characterised by the humour which informed most aspects of her life, and was an inspiration to other women sufferers from cancer. "Does this mean I'm a lymphomaniac?" she had inquired of the doctor when her condition was diagnosed. Given only two years to live in 1988 she fought against the ravages of the disease for seven years.

The first few years of her life were serene and untroubled ones. But her father, a draughtsman for a Sheffield engineering company, died of cancer when she was seven and her distraught mother became a drug addict, eventually committing suicide. Sent to a council home, she ran away after a few weeks and lived with her grandfather. He took a keen interest in her, sending her to dancing school.

But there was a price to be paid for this in the sexual molestation to which he subjected her as she lay in bed one morning. From then on she was on her guard, but the experience induced in her a self-confessed "streak of recklessness". After attending some 15 schools in Yorkshire and Scotland, she worked as a waitress, croupier, petrol pump attendant and model. She was pregnant at 16 and the following year married her childhood sweetheart, Malcolm Stringer, a butcher who later turned bus conductor.

She decided to try her hand as an entertainer and made her first professional appearance at 18 in a working men's club in Rotherham. She spent a dozen years playing working men's clubs and cabaret dates before *New Faces* made her an overnight star at the age of 30. She soon became a familiar figure on television and had her own show *Marti Caine* on BBC 2 from the early 1980s. From 1982 she spent 18 months



At a Royal Variety Performance in 1979

starring in a stage spectacular in the South African holiday resort of Sun City and, like other performers who had appeared in South Africa, she was put on a United Nations blacklist. She was the target of anti-apartheid demonstrators in 1984 when she played Fanny Brice in the musical *Funny Girl*, at the Crucible Theatre in her home town.

She made the switch from variety to situation comedy in 1985 with *Hilary*, in which she played a scatterbrained television researcher, divorced and with a teenage son. In 1986 she was back with *New Faces*, as hostess of the show. When cancer was diagnosed she refused to stop working, appearing in pantomime in Bath and on the BBC television show *Joker in the Pack*. But in 1992, with her condition worsening, she had to pull out of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. For the next two years she was unable to work, undergoing chemotherapy and a bone marrow transplant. "Chemo's a piece of cake after BBC coffee," was her wry reaction to this experience.

But she got back on stage, playing shows in Great Yarmouth and Sheffield. She had been intending to take her favourite panto role, the Red Queen, in *Snow White* at Basingstoke this Christmas but had recently been admitted to hospital again. From there she discharged herself to join her husband at home.

Marti Caine's autobiography, the improbably named *A Coward's Chronicles*, was published in 1990. Her first marriage was dissolved in 1978. In 1985 she married the actor and theatre director Kenneth Ives, who survives her, with the two sons of her first marriage.

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(From Our Special Correspondent)

DOORN, Nov. 5

Doorn and its citizens turned out to-day to witness the wedding of the fallen monarch of the German Empire to Princess Hermine von Reuss. As a matter of fact, hardly anybody caught a glimpse of the wedding ceremony itself, except those who belonged to the wedding party. Great care was taken to maintain privacy, and inquirers were informed that "by order of the Imperial Court Marshal's office" only the names of the guests and the time of the ceremony were to be supplied.

Last night the long-awaited bride arrived at Doorn House. She came by the German express, which she left at Apeldoorn. On the platform a large crowd had assembled, including journalists and photographers.

After the arrival of Princess Hermine at Doorn there was a family dinner party, which included, besides the ex-Kaiser and his bride,

ON THIS DAY

November 6, 1922

The Kaiserin, wife of the Kaiser, William II, the former German Emperor, died in 1921. In November the following year, the Kaiser remarried. Not all of his family, though they realised their father was lonely, were pleased with his choice of bride

Prince Henry, the ex-Kaiser's brother, the ex-Crown Prince, and the Prince zu Stollberg-Rossla, the bride's brother-in-law. The bride stayed the night in the lodge at Doorn House, instead of at Castle Amerongen, as had been arranged.

The wedding ceremony took place at 11.30 this morning in the lodge. The bridegroom wore the full-dress uniform of the Imperial Guards, and the ex-Crown Prince that of the Death's Head Hussars. The bride wore a mauve dress. The party subsequently drove through the park in the rain to the chapel in Doorn House for the religious ceremony, which was conducted by Dr Vogel, of Potsdam, the former Imperial Court Chaplain.

After the ceremony the party proceeded to the Kaiser's own rooms, where the bride and bridegroom received the congratulations of all those present, including the house staff. A family luncheon followed, the table being decorated with red flowers. At the luncheon an address was delivered by Prince Henry, the ex-Kaiser's brother, in the name of the Family. No other speeches were made, and the Kaiser did not reply.

Among the gifts received were some flowers from Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands. Several congratulatory telegrams came from Germany, including one from the Nationalist Party. I learn that the ex-Kaiser gave his bride a beautiful set of toilet articles in a mahogany case.

BERLIN, Nov. 4 — The Customs authorities at Bentheim state that there is no truth in the report that Princess Hermine's luggage, including her bridal dress, was detained at the frontier. — *Reuter.*

THE TIMES TODAY

MONDAY NOVEMBER 6 1995

NEWS

World mourns 'martyr for peace'

■ A shocked and uncertain Israel plays host today to monarchs and heads of state who will turn the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin into a display of international solidarity for the Middle East peace process. There were demands for an inquiry into the security lapses that allowed the Prime Minister's assassination at a peace rally in Tel Aviv.

■ Yigal Amir, the Jewish law student arrested at the scene, made a detailed confession to Israeli police declaring that he had shot Mr Rabin and was happy that he had died.

■ The United States moved swiftly to maintain momentum in the Middle East, with President Clinton vowing to shore up an increasingly fragile peace process.

■ World leaders voiced their anguish and grief, paying tribute to the life and vision of Mr Rabin. Britain's Jewish community was united in shock and grief .....Pages 1, 2, 3, 18, 19, 21

Unionist blow

Tory MPs fighting the declaration of their outside earnings suffered an unexpected setback when David Trimble, leader of the Ulster Unionists, backed the Nolan committee's call for disclosure. The Tories had been counting on the Unionists staying away from tonight's Commons vote.....Pages 1, 10, 18

Clinton roots wilt

President Clinton is expected to abandon plans to find long-lost Irish relatives during his visit to Northern Ireland month because the White House is unsure of his ancestral roots ..... Page 4

Turner's prize

Ted Turner, the American entrepreneur who built his family's billboard business into a film and cable television empire, has found a new multimedia opportunity: the Bible.....Page 5

'Scrap prescriptions'

The £5.25 prescription charge should be scrapped and NHS patients charged market prices for medicines, according to the Institute of Economic Affairs, the free-market think-tank .... Page 6

Harris: no regrets

The official dispatch written by Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris detailing his commitment to destroying German industrial cities in the Second World War contains not a word of regret.Page 8

Blair welfare reform

Tony Blair has ordered his senior colleagues to draw up proposals for a radical overhaul of the welfare state in time for an early general election. He has told Chris Smith, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, to "think the unthinkable" and produce a comprehensive blueprint within six months.....Page 10

Bar equality code

An equality code for the Bar, the most comprehensive and politically correct to be issued to any profession, is to be sent to 8,500 barristers in England and Wales ..... Page 11

Andreotti charge

Giulio Andreotti, the former Italian Prime Minister already on trial for alleged membership of the Mafia, was indicted on new charges of ordering the murder in 1979 of a journalist..... Page 12

Russian retreat

The Russian Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, made a sharp retreat from his declaration that he was taking charge of national security policy while President Yeltsin was ill..... Page 12

Priests boost Walesa

Polish priests urged parishioners to reject former Communist or atheist candidates in the presidential elections, perhaps tipping the balance in favour of President Walesa ..... Page 13

Laptop cracks cryptologist's legacy

■ A cryptologist who left behind a fiendish puzzle as part of an inquiry into life after death has had his code broken 47 years later — by a laptop computer. Robert Thouless, a Cambridge professor, believed the code would only be with the help of a psychic medium who had plucked his two keywords from beyond the grave. But technology had beaten parapsychology ..... Page 13

SIMON WALKER



Eric Sykes after unveiling a Comic Heritage plaque yesterday at the home of his former partner, Hattie Jacques, in Earls Court, London

BUSINESS

Power cut: Amerada Hess is to offer a 15 per cent discount on British Gas prices to 500,000 homes in southwest England, saving each about £50 a year..... Page 44

Press gang: Conrad Black, proprietor of the Telegraph group, and Tony O'Reilly, the Irish tycoon, are among those interested in part of United News & Media..... Page 44

Moving out: Four former directors of Smith New Court have left following the payment of bonuses as a result of the stockbroker's takeover by Merrill Lynch, and more departures are expected..... Page 44

Christmas gift: Midland Bank is to donate £75,000 to charity instead of sending cards to customers in a reaction against the commerciality of Christmas ..... Page 44

MIND AND MATTER

Forensic testing: Anjana Ahuja on a new chemical check to expose drug use, accurate enough to be trusted in court .....Page 16

Rabbit plague: Forty years after myxomatosis, another virus is sweeping Australia.....Page 16

FEATURES

Good times: Julia Llewellyn Smith talks to Penelope Mortimer about her children, her relationships with men, and her scurrilous biography of the Queen Mother..... Page 17

Black opera: "*African Portraits* is the result of my discoveries in Africa. I cannot think of a purer form of expression than the music I heard in Kenya." Hannibal Lokumbe talks to Joanna Pitman ..... Page 17

Better bigger: Oasis, the kings of Britpop, have made it into the big league with their huge Earls Court gig. The only problem, says David Sinclair, is that they didn't think big enough .....Page 14

Censorship nostalgia: Peter Nichols' new play *Blue Murder* is about the days when playwrights were called to defend their work before the Lord Chamberlain's Office .....Page 14

Popular opera: A lively night at the Coliseum as English National Opera revives Jonathan Miller's enduring production of *The Barber of Seville* .....Page 15

Modern Euripides: Gavin Bryars' opera *Medea* has its British premiere courtesy of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra..... Page 15



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ ACTION PACK
Nigel Hawkes on trials of a vaccine that may be able to prevent allergic reactions

■ TURNER PRIZE
Centre-stage at the Tate Gallery for contemporary art at its most challenging

Rugby union: After all the razzmatazz surrounding the return of Jonathan Davies to Wales, the player had a low-key debut for Cardiff against Aberavon Pages 23, 30, 31

Football: Graham Stuart's first-half goal earned Everton their first FA Carling Premiership win since August as Blackburn Rovers' dismal form away from home continued.....Pages 26, 27

Cricket: The England bowlers were given a good workout as the tour team to South Africa beat Border by an innings and 53 runs in East London ..... Page 24

Boxing: Lennox Lewis, the London-born heavyweight fighter, is being lined up for a lucrative meeting with his arch-rival, Riddick Bowe, who beat Evander Holyfield in Las Vegas ..... Page 29

Tennis: Tim Henman, 21, defeated Greg Rusedski, the Canadian-born British No 1, fighting back from a set down to win the national title at Telford.....Page 25

Rugby league: Leo Dynevor, the scrum half, scored a hat-trick of tries as London Broncos turned on the style to end Castleford's perfect home record..... Page 24

School sport: Dulwich College Colts rugby union team are in their fifth unbeaten year, having collected 246 points and conceded only 12 this season.....Page 35

LOTTERY NUMBERS

6, 14, 18, 27, 44, 48. Bonus 1

Preview: Germaine Greer is in regal form *Face to Face* (BBC2, 11.15pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond finds little subtlety in the latest tale about Francis Urquhart... Page 43

Death of peacemaker

At a moment when the whole world seems a little darker, it is easy to forget how much light has already been generated by the Middle Eastern peace process. That light need not be extinguished by the madness of men.....Page 19

Debate divorce

Those who oppose Lord Mackay's Bill can surely not believe that the present law is perfect.....Page 19

Times in Europe

We look forward now to reporting to new readers as well as old ones, to hearing from new readers, publishing more of their letters, and using our new base to extend further the arguments on which the Continent's future dependsPage 19

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Mr Rabin may uniquely be able to defend the peace initiatives in death, just as he was uniquely able to advance them in life.....Page 18

Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel; **Lord Bottomley**, former Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations; **Marti Caine**, singer and comedienne.....Page 21

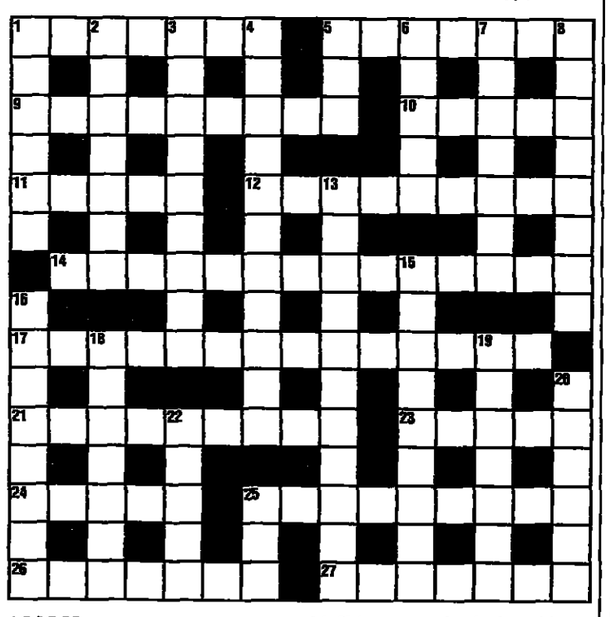
Cannabis law; MPs' income; *The Times* crossword.....Page 19

All decent men and women must unite in making violence by Jews against Jews utterly and eternally unacceptable. Nothing less than the nation's fate depends on it
— The Jerusalem Post

We have written much in this paper criticising Rabin and his policies and voiced our disagreements with him, but as soon as we heard about his killing all these disputes vanished
— al-Ahram (Egypt)

Israel will be able to master the gritty challenge of making clear and certain in this time of pain that continuity and order will follow the terrible disorder of the murder
— The Washington Post

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,005



ACROSS

1 Piped music originally played in tower (7).
5 Fluster rarely, being so relaxed (7).
9 Broadcast featuring animal in desert storm (9).
10 It's a lottery, this sortie by aircraft (5).
11 The knack of getting runs in a very short time (5).
12 Reflected glow finally seen in low fire (9).
14 Typical pose by daily given to controversy (14).
17 Coin once given by member to powerful jazzman (5,9).
21 Agent thrown over by one-time artiste (9).
23 Additional skill displayed in retirement by former partner (5).
24 Saintly woman beheaded for being inflexible (5).
25 Very bitter civil disturbance involving music group (9).
26 Sick person clearly in evidence around one (7).
27 The pale concoction that's at the bottom of the glass (7).

DOWN

1 Assumes it's restricted by lawmen out East (6).
2 Like an uncouth person expecting a fall in prices? (7).
3 Unfashionable garments in the suburbs (9).
4 Hard to see plant that is with another that's wild (5-6).
5 Perch used by an angler (3).
6 Some of this is a likely constituent of rope (5).
7 Alarm about source of explosive found in cargo (7).
8 Cosmetic for colouring cheek and stomach? (8).
13 Exploit unreasonably, having finished prison sentence (11).
15 In island location, king put up old Jew (9).
16 Cold drink served on carriage? Nonsense! (8).
18 Part of one's goal, being honourable (7).
19 So, for example, permitted a brief communication (7).
20 Crackpot plan to capture a military assistant (6).
22 Greybeard's endless portrayal of a military man (5).
25 Charge initially levied for a large vessel (3).

Times Two Crossword, page 44

KNOCKANDO

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,004 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc's,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Tiree, Strathclyde, & Aultbea, Highland, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries & Galloway, 6C (43F); highest rainfall: Sella Ness, Shetland, 0.04in; highest sunshine: Jersey, Channel Islands, 8.9hr.

FLIGHT SAVERS

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LONDON TO EDINBURGH OR GLASGOW

Phone Air UK on 0345 666777 or contact your travel agent. All major credit cards accepted. Subject to availability and airport tax. Restrictions apply. AirUK

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will start with a widespread frost, but this will thaw as the sun gains strength. A mainly sunny day will follow in the South, while in the North cloud will slowly increase from the West, possibly bringing some patchy rain to northwest England this evening.

Cloud already over northwest Scotland and Northern Ireland will gradually extend eastwards. The rain in the West will become more patchy as it moves eastwards across Scotland.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, SW England, Central N England, S Wales:** after an early frost it will be dry and sunny. Wind south to southwest, light to moderate. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Channel Isles:** mainly sunny. Wind south, light. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Moray Firth:** cloud increasing from the West, patchy light rain later. Wind southwest light to moderate. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Central Highlands, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** cloudy with outbreaks of rain. Wind south, light to moderate. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy with outbreaks of rain. Wind west, moderate to fresh, becoming southeast, light to moderate. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Outlook:** outbreaks of rain in the North, sunny elsewhere after night-time frost.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

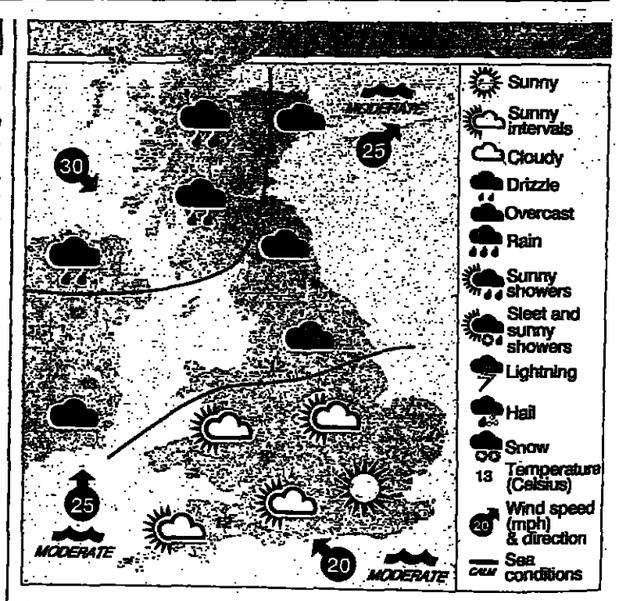
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	-	12	54	c
Anglesey	4.6	-	12	54	s
Aspatria	2.8	-	11	52	b
Aviemore	0.3	-	9	48	c
Belfast	-	-	12	54	c
Birmingham	8.1	-	9	48	s
Bognor R	8.5	-	9	48	s
Bournem'th	3.8	-	10	50	s
Bristol	6.7	-	10	50	s
Buxton	5.9	-	7	45	s
Cardiff	4.5	-	10	50	s
Cleethorpes	X				
Colwyn Bay	6.8	-	13	55	s
Cromer	7.7	-	9	48	s
Doncaster	X				
Eastbourne	8.4	-	8	46	s
Edinburgh	0.2	-	10	50	c
Eskdalemuir	-	-	6	43	c
Exmouth	3.3	-	10	50	s
Falmouth	6.1	-	11	52	s
Fishguard	5.3	-	10	50	s
Folkestone	8.7	-	7	45	s
Glasgow	0.2	-	11	52	c
Guernsey	8.5	-	10	50	s
Hastings	8.7	-	8	46	s
Hayling I.	7.7	-	10	50	s
Herne Bay	8.0	-	8	46	s
Hove	5.5	-	9	48	s
Hunstanton	7.9	-	8	46	s
Ilfracombe	X				
Isle of Man	5.3	-	13	55	s
Jersey	6.9	-	8	46	s
Kinloss	-	-	12	54	c
Leeds	3.9	-	10	50	r
Lerwick	-	-	10	50	r
Leuchars	-	-	9	48	du
Littlehmptn	7.6	-	9	48	s
Liverpool	7.1	-	10	50	s
London	8.3	-	10	50	s
Lowestoft	1.0	-	8	46	c
Manchester	6.8	-	10	50	s
Margate	7.8	-	8	46	s
Minehead	2.3	-	9	48	b
Morecambe	5.8	-	11	52	s
Newcastle	2.5	-	10	50	b
Newquay	4.2	-	10	50	s
Norwich	3.5	-	8	46	s
Nottingham	X				
Oxford	8.7	-	9	48	s
Penzance	-	-	11	52	s
Plymouth	X				
Poole	3.9	-	10	50	s
Prestatyn	X	-	12	54	s
Ross-o-wye	6.8	-	10	50	s
Ryde	X				
Salcombe	X				
Sandown	6.6	-	10	50	s
Saunton Snd	5.2	-	11	52	s
Scarboro'	X				
Shanklin	X				
Shrewsbury	6.4	-	9	48	s
Skegness	X				
Southend	4.9	0.01	8	46	b
Southport	7.2	-	10	50	s
Southsea	6.8	-	9	48	s
St. Ives	X				
Stornoway	-	-	12	54	du
Swanage	3.7	-	9	48	s
Teignmouth	3.3	-	10	50	b
Tenby	X				
Tiree	1.9	-	13	55	c
Torquay	4.2	-	11	52	s
Tynemouth	0.8	-	8	46	c
Ventnor	7.2	-	11	52	s
West-s-mare	X				
Weymouth	3.8	-	9	48	s

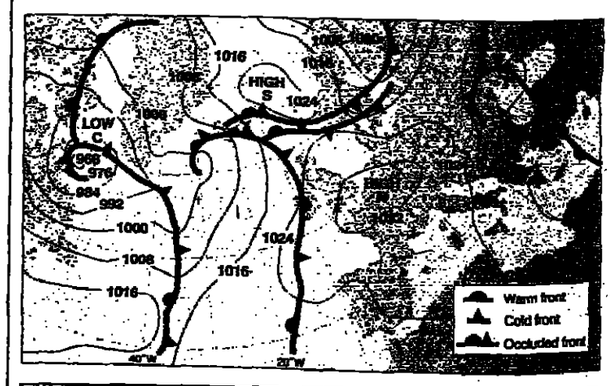
ABROAD

Ajaccio	14	57	s	Cologne	3	37	s	Majorca	16	61	f
Alicante	25	77	s	Corfu	11	52	s	Malaga	21	70	f
Alex'dria	30	86	s	C'phagn	6	43	s	Malta	17	63	f
Algiers	20	68	s	Dublin	12	54	c	Melb'rne	15	59	r
Amst'dm	5	41	f	Dubrovnik	7	45	s	Mexico C	19	66	s
Athens	17	63	c	Faro	23	73	s	Miami	30	86	f
B Aires	33	91	s	Florence	11	52	s	Milan	11	52	s
Bahrain	29	84	s	Frankfurt	3	37	s	Montreal	3	37	-
Bangkok	31	88	s	Funchal	23	73	f	Moscow	-2	28	c
Barbados	29	84	f	Geneva	4	39	s	Munich	-1	30	f
Barcelona	13	55	c	Gibraltar	21	70	c	N Delhi	27	81	s
Beirut	28	82	s	Helsinki	-1	30	c	N York	8	46	s
Belfast	12	54	f	Hong K	23	73	r	Nairobi	27	81	f
Belgrade	0	32	sn	Innsbruck	-1	30	c	Naples	11	52	s
Berlin	3	37	s	Istanbul	19	66	f	Nice	14	57	s
Bermuda	25	77	f	Jeddah	33	91	s	Oslo	0	32	s
Biarritz	10	50	s	L Angels	17	63	f	Paris	6	41	s
Borde'x	9	48	s	L Palmas	23	73	f	Peking	21	70	s
Brussels	5	41	s	Le Touet	6	43	s	Perth	28	82	s
Budapst	-1	30	sn	Lisbon	16	61	c	Prague	0	32	c
Cairo	31	88	s	Locarno	12	54	s	Reykjavik	7	45	f
Cape Tn	21	70	s	Luxembg	2	36	s	Rhodes	22	72	s
Ch'church	16	61	s	Luxor	31	88	s	Rio de J	25	77	f
Chicago	-1	30	f	Madrid	17	63	s	Riyadh	29	84	s
Rome	12	54	s
---	---	---	---
S Fr'isco	18	64	s
S Paulo	22	72	c
Salzburg	-3	27	sn
Santiago	24	75	s
Seoul	18	64	s
Sing'por	29	84	f
Sr'kholm	-4	25	s
Strash'rg	3	37	s
Sydney	24	75	s
Tangier	24	75	s
Tel Aviv	30	86	s
Tenerife	24	75	c
Tokyo	18	64	s
Toronto	3	37	s
Tunis	15	59	c
Valencia	19	66	f
Vanc'ver	6	43	c
Venice	11	52	s
Vienna	3	37	sn
Warsaw	1	34	c
Wash'ton	8	46	s
Wel'ngton	16	61	s
Zurich	-1	30	s

Temperatures at midday local time X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: high N will decline slowly in situ; high S will collapse and become indistinct; low C will fill and head northwest



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	0:35	7.40	0:50	7.25
Aberdeen	0:09	4.20	0:39	4.19
Avonmouth	6.13	12.86	6.35	13.11
Belfast	10:09	3.38	10:26	3.43
Cardiff	5:59	12.04	6.22	12.30
Devonport	4:50	5.35	5.05	5.41
Dover	10:05	6.56	10:32	6.46
Dublin	11:00	4.07	11:05	4.11
Falmouth	4:12	4.84	4:29	5.11
Glasgow	11.41	4.68	–	–
Harwich	10:57	3.93	11.23	4.02
Holyhead	9:31	5.43	9:40	5.57
Hull	5.10	7.29	5:45	7.23
Ilfracombe	4:58	9.19	5:19	9.36
King's Lynn	5.12	6.61	5:37	6.59

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Leith	1:33	5.45	2:00	5.46
Liverpool	10:23	9.05	10:37	9.34
Lowestoft	8.24	2.52	8:57	2.47
Margate	11:16	4.79	11:48	4.87
Milford Haven	5:16	6.82	5:36	6.98
Newquay	4:02	6.54	4:21	6.70
Oban	4:44	3.74	5:04	4.03
Penzance	3:43	5.27	3:59	5.37
Portland	5:43	2.12	5:59	2.09
Portsmouth	10:30	4.74	10:48	4.83
Shoreham	10:32	6.26	10:54	6.16
Southampton	9:55	4.58	10:13	4.38
Swansea	5.21	9.29	5:41	9.50
Tees	2:32	5.26	3:01	5.26
W'ton-on-Nze	10:53	4.15	11:20	4.22

Crown copyright reserved. All tide times are GMT

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.02 am
Sun sets: 4.26 pm
Moon sets 5.56 pm
Moon rises 4.11 pm

London 4.26 pm to 7.04 am
Bristol 4.38 pm to 7.13 am
Edinburgh 4.23 pm to 7.31 am
Manchester 4.28 pm to 7.19 am
Penzance 4.51 pm to 7.21 am

Full Moon tomorrow

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هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

CRICKET



24 Cork's spell opens way for England

TENNIS



25 Henman's recovery reveals home truths

FOOTBALL



27 Juninho's entrancing debut sparks carnival

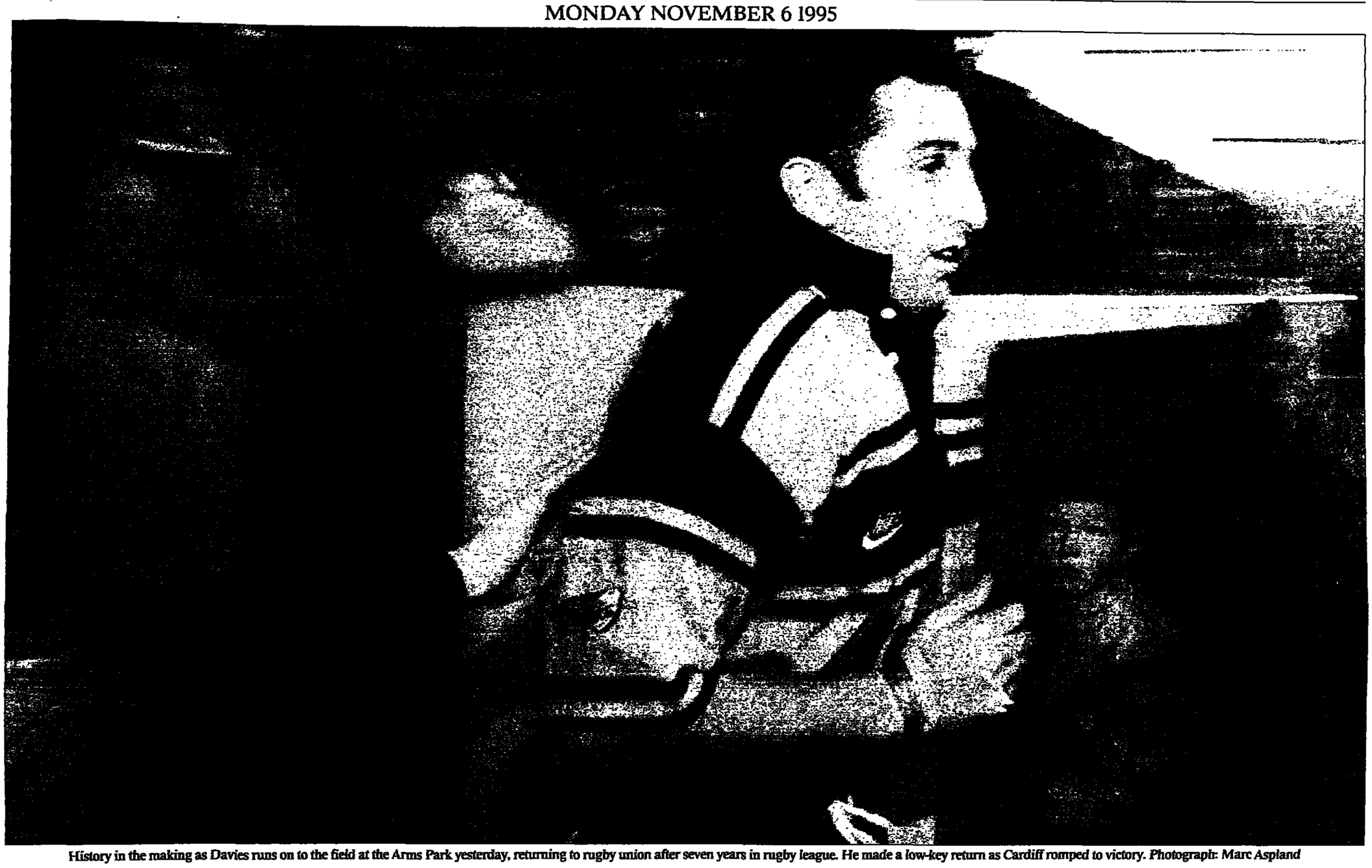
BOXING



29 Bowe's victory clears way for bout with Lewis

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY NOVEMBER 6 1995



History in the making as Davies runs on to the field at the Arms Park yesterday, returning to rugby union after seven years in rugby league. He made a low-key return as Cardiff romped to victory. *Photograph: Marc Aspland*

Quality counts for nought on day when history is made

Davies back in Cardiff arms

Cardiff..... 57
Aberavon..... 9

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH sports' balance of trade fluctuated over the weekend. One day, Brazil comes to Teesside in the shape of the diminutive Juninho; the next, Jonathan Davies, rugby league's hero, returns to his roots and rugby union.

There, the comparison ends. The passion for sport in general and football in particular is the stuff of North Eastern legend; in Wales, they have become world-weary. The national game of rugby union has been the subject for depressing conjecture for too long: rugby league has not supplanted it and nor has football.

The Welsh public seeks inspiration and the heroes of old: so far, there is no sign of deliverance. Hence the significance attached to the slight figure of Davies in his reincarnation as rugby union man on Cardiff's Arms Park ground yesterday: though he could well be but the first of many to return to the valleys from rugby league.

To be frank, it was not much of a homecoming. The excitement drummed up in midweek by Cardiff's capture from Warrington of Davies seemed to have evaporated by the time the Heineken League match with Aberavon began yesterday. The trappings were there, the television cameras, the long lenses of media, but hardly the hoped-for numbers on a cold evening when the crowd reached no more than 7,000 in a stadium capable of bolding double that.

Nor did they offer more than a polite cheer for the pale-faced little man from Trimsaran. The Cardiff public love the try-scoring Steve Ford and the cheeky Mark Ring, but they clearly need time to adjust to Davies.

Some 80 minutes later, Davies walked off having participated in Cardiff's 57-9 victory, but only in a peripheral way. The Cardiff coaches had said earlier that no special rearrangement of the game plan had been made to allow for his inclusion at full back and they were not jesting — time and again, Cardiff moved the ball to where Davies was not.

Perhaps the whole was suggestive of what was to come in rugby union. All too soon, the game will have dispensed with its traditions and the transfer of players and Sunday matches for the benefit of television, will become the norm.

Quite what Paddy O'Brien, from Oamaru in New Zealand's South Island, made of all the hype may only be imagined. O'Brien, on these shores to officiate in the international between Wales and Fiji on Saturday, had a game of depressingly low standards to handle, until, in the final quarter, Cardiff ran away with it.

They did so with minimal contribution from Davies. In the first 14 minutes, he touched the ball but twice, once when Aberavon kicked it through and he found a safe touch and once when he joined his threequarters but bowled a long pass too low for Nigel Walker to catch.

His most significant contribution was the speed of pass and swift recovery in support of the ball handler, both basic tenets of rugby league and his past seven years. Time and again, he lurked unobserved as Cardiff's cut-out passes drifted by him or players in possession turned back to the most crowded parts of the field.

Simon Hutchinson, the Aberavon wing, bore testimony to the effects of a Davies tackle, the little man jumping into a body check which left his opponent stretched on the floor. Davies also found space in which to show that his speed remains good enough for first-class club rugby; a sprint to the corner was foiled by Laity but created the first of three tries for Ring, who was playing international rugby in 1983 even before Davies.

"I was very nervous about all the public expectation, and I am just glad the game is over," Davies, who will probably play in one of Cardiff's two non-league games this week, against Griqualand West or Cambridge University, said. "It'll take a bit of time to adapt to the game and to Cardiff's pattern.

"There was a lot of stagnant ball which was not good for anyone, and a lot of players spoiling the game rather than being constructive. In league, if you shout for the ball, you tend to get it in a one-on-one situation, and if you beat your man you are through. Here, the drift defence can cut you down."

It was ironical that, when Ford went off injured, Mike Rayer, another local hero, took the field in his accustomed position of full back. Thus Davies moved to centre (and Mike Hall to wing), without getting closer to the action than to provide assistance as a tiring Aberavon side struggled to stay with the league champions, who are now back at the top of the table.

"We have," Adrian Davies said meaningfully, "a squad of 32, many of them internationals, and Jonathan has to find his place." The younger Davies, Cardiff's acting captain, was in positive form, aware of the threat that the newcomer offers to his own place. "He has the talent to be a major asset to the club, but he needs to find his feet," he said.

I imagine they are not saying that about Juninho on Teesside.



Davies in full stride stretches for the gap in his own, evergreen, determined way

Difficult homecoming 30
McGeechan's revolution .. 31
Results and tables 32

SCORERS: Cardiff: Tries: Ring (3), Rayer (2), Ford, Williams, A Davies, Booth. Conversions: A Davies (6). Aberavon: Penalty goals: D Davies (3).
CARDIFF: J Davies; S Ford, M Hall, M Ring, N Walker; A Davies, A Booth, A Lewis, H Bevan, M Griffiths, V Davies, J Wakeford, K Stewart, D Williams, E Lewis. Ford replaced by M Rayer (42min); V Davies replaced by C Mills (59), Lewis replaced by P Booth (73); Ring replaced by M de Medi (76)
ABERAVON: D Davies; B Grabham, A Bucknell, P Wintle, S Hutchinson; C Laity, G Bebar; R Price, M Bennett, A Bevan, B Sheridon, P Clapham, S Thomas, H Merrett, R Jones. Merrett replaced by A Mears (40); Hutchinson replaced by N Stork (71).
Referee: P O'Brien (New Zealand).

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BBC plays football with two feet in the past



MATTHEW BOND

TV ACTION REPLAY

There are two ways of looking at the BBC's decision to run two documentary series about football concurrently. You can shake your head and marvel at the managerial ineptitude that allowed *Kicking and Screaming* and *Football, Fussball, Voetbal* not only to go into production at the same time but to be transmitted together. Or you can simply sit back and enjoy them both.

Either way, the overlap between the two series was at its peak last week. *Kicking and Screaming*, which is made by BBC North, was looking at 1953-1966, 13 years which saw England move from humiliation against Hungary to glory against West Germany. And, as bad luck or bad planning would have it, this coincided with John Motson taking up the baton for BBC Sport's *Football, Fussball, Voetball* with an all-too-timely look at the progress of British clubs in European competition from 1956 to 1975.

Having been preceded by Barry Davies on Spain and Portugal and Gerald Sinstadt on Italy, Motson has drawn both the long and the short straw with Britain. The advantage is that much of the material is already familiar, triggering that now much sought-after warm glow of sporting nostalgia. His problem is the amount of material he has to cram into 45 minutes, given that Niall Sloane, the series editor, has understandably ruled that all the programmes should follow a straightforward chronological path.

Dealing with Spain or Italy you can get away with dropping a couple of lesser moments of history in order to spend a little more time in the company of Alfredo di Stefano or Giovanni Trapattoni. On home ground, Motson does not have that luxury. Every team ever to cross the Channel and enjoy a modicum of success demands its moment of archive glory. The result is what Steve Rider would call "a packed programme".

Curiously, one of the delights of the two earlier programmes were the new interviews with footballing legends such as di Stefano, Eusebio and Cruyff. But for the British programme (the second part of which will be shown on November 24) the most poignant moments came from those no longer available for interview, Messers Busby, Shankly and Stein. But that is all part of the emotional power of archive-led television, especially in a week where the results really do suggest that we will not see their like — and certainly not their trophies — again.

For a well-argued explanation of why not, you had to have seen last Monday's *Kicking and Screaming*, which chose as its starting point the famous goal that Ferenc Puskas scored after just 45 seconds to help Hungary to a 6-3 victory at Wembley. Full marks for producer Jean Claude Bragarde and his team for securing interviews both with Puskas and with Nandor Hidegkuti, the so-called centre-forward whose midfield play so bamboozled the England team.

The programme went on to take an all-too-rare look at how football tactics developed in this country, contrasting the views of those who learned from the Hungary game — Bobby Robson, Bill Nicholson, Malcolm Allison and, of course, Sir Matt Busby with those such as Stan Cullis, who favoured the "route one" approach made famous over subsequent decades by Wolves, Watford and Wimbledon. It was thoughtful, provocative and excellent television.

But the BBC should beware. For all its growing success with documentary-style sports programmes, it cannot afford to turn its back on live sport, history in the making rather that already made. Why for example, did it yesterday choose to show a 100-minute review of the rugby league World Cup rather than provide live coverage of the men's final from the national tennis championships? It may be a long shot, but Tim Henman's victory might just prove as important as that Puskas goal.

Bowlers see England to rare innings victory

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN EAST LONDON

EAST LONDON (final day of four): England XI bt Border by an innings and 53 runs

ALEC STEWART put the collective need for practice of all his bowlers before Robin Smith's individual need to spend time at the crease to enable England to achieve an unlikely innings victory over Border here yesterday.

By enforcing the follow-on during the final morning session, it was unlikely that Smith, England's most experienced batsman, would be given a second opportunity to bat and improve his depressing tour record of four runs from three first-class innings.

In the event, Border capitulated in 51 overs and later, as a small crowd drifted away, Smith resorted to practising on the match pitch with his own bowlers providing the ammunition.

Stewart, however, was adamant he had taken the right course of action. "Not one of the bowlers had sent down 40 overs since the tour started," Stewart said. "Apart from Robin, all the batsmen have scored runs. Also, we wanted to win the game."

The excercise in building team morale was an all-round success and victory surprising since, before the weekend, two nights of heavy rain had threatened to leave the Buffalo Stadium a quagmire and the game in stalemate.

Hard graft by the groundstaff and contrivance between the two captains to extend the playing hours on the final two days meant that, in the end, only three sessions were lost to the elements.

A fourth, after tea yesterday, also proved surplus to requirements as three members of the England pace attack bowled with such vigour, after seeing little serious action in seven weeks, that Border, with the exception of their one Test batsman, Daryll Cullinan, could offer little resistance.

The once-slow pitch had quickened slightly but, more significantly, the ball swung from early morning. Dominic Cork and Mark Ilott made the most of the helpful conditions, backed by some spectacular wicketkeeping from Jack Russell.

Border had resumed at 153 for six in response to England's 351 with their chance of avoiding the follow-on resting very much in Cullinan's hands. Having battled for 147 minutes, Cullinan played across a delivery to fall leg-before to Cork. The last three wickets fell in nine deliveries, Darren Gough taking two with successive balls.

The follow-on dilemma solved and with welcome sunshine on their backs, England set about their task of winning the match with enthusiasm. Bowling downwind with the new ball, Ilott quickly removed Frans Cronje, the elder brother of the South Africa captain, Hansie, and Peter Kirsten, the former Test batsman, who reacted with amazement when Russell dived to intercept his leg glance.

To the last ball before lunch, a loose full toss from Cork, Piet Botha drove a sharp, low catch to Smith at extra cover, giving the Hampshire player at least one positive return from the match.

Cullinan, certain to be in South Africa's Test 12 when it is announced today, fought hard again, particularly against the spin of Richard Illingworth, who was bowling into a stiff breeze.

At the other end, in short bursts, Cork, Ilott and Gough worked their way through an ill-equipped Border line-up with Russell producing the catch of the day when he dived in front of first slip to take Brenden Fourie's edged offering.

When Ilott's in-swing accounted for the last man, Makhaya Ntini, there were 57 overs left and England had achieved their first innings victory on foreign soil since beating New Zealand's Central District, at Hamilton, in 1992.



Gough appeals successfully for leg-before against Emslie, the Border tailender, during England's innings victory yesterday. Photograph: Rebecca Naden

SCOREBOARD FROM EAST LONDON

ENGLAND XI: First Innings

J P Crawley not out	108
*A J Stewart c Kirsten b Ntini	11
M R Ramprakash c Cullinan b Fourie	70
R A Smith lbw b Fourie	0
G A Hick c Palframan b Cronje	18
†R C Russell c Palframan b Howell	64
D G Cork c and b Howell	43
D Gough c Emslie b Ntini	7
P J Martin c Botha b Howell	5
R K Illingworth b Fourie	3
M C Ilott not out	1
Extras (b 1, lb 6, w 2, nb 12)	21
Total	351

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-143, 3-145, 4-184, 5-280, 6-306, 7-315, 8-330, 9-347

BOWLING: Fourie 30-7-75-4; Ntini 32-5-84-2; Botha 14-1-42-0; Emslie 11-2-39-0; Howell 29.1-9-58-3; Cronje 13-2-31-1; Pope 3-0-15-0, Strydom 1-1-0-0.

BORDER: First Innings

P J Botha c Russell b Cork	1
F J C Cronje c Cork b Gough	24
*P N Kirsten lbw b Ilott	53
D J Cullinan lbw b Cork	20
P C Strydom run out	10
†S J Palframan b Cork	21
S C Pope c Illingworth b Cork	1
I L Howell c Russell b Gough	11
B C Fourie not out	0
P A N Emslie lbw b Gough	0
M Ntini b Cork	1
Extras (b 8, lb 6, w 1, nb 9)	24
Total	166

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-81, 3-90, 4-111, 5-141, 6-144, 7-164, 8-164, 9-164.

BOWLING: Ilott 14-4-34-1; Cork 16.3-2-48-5; Gough 12-4-30-3; Martin 7-2-23-0; Illingworth 9-4-17-0.

BORDER: Second Innings

F J C Cronje lbw b Ilott	13
P J Botha c Smith b Cork	21
*P N Kirsten c Russell b Ilott	6
D J Cullinan b Gough	55
P C Strydom lbw b Cork	3
†S J Palframan b Cork	10
S C Pope b Ilott	8
I L Howell not out	5
B C Fourie c Russell b Ilott	0
P A N Emslie lbw b Gough	0
M Ntini lbw b Ilott	0
Extras (lb 10, nb 1)	11
Total	132

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-34, 3-55, 4-63, 5-92, 6-127, 7-127, 8-128, 9-129.

BOWLING: Ilott 13.5-3-36-5; Martin 5-2-11-0; Gough 9-3-9-2; Cork 12-0-33-3; Illingworth 12-1-33-0

Umpires: D Orchard and R Noble

England A board, page 32

Sussex pair dictate as A team continues sound start

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

IAN SALISBURY and Ed Giddins, of Sussex, shared seven wickets as England A dismissed a Combined XI for 204 yesterday in the Defence Stadium, Karachi on the first day of the opening first-class match of their tour.

Salisbury led the way with the vital wicket of an in-form Shahid Anwar and finished with four for 72 from 23 overs. Giddins, who is impressing with his accuracy and control on his first A tour, took a wicket in each of his three spells and achieved the first breakthrough by bowling Mohammad Ramzan.

Shoaib Mohammad, widely expected to join the Pakistan side in Australia in place of the ailing Saeed Anwar, improved his chances with a mature 40, an innings ended by a rash pull against Giddins after a stand of 83 with Azam Khan.

Mahmood Hamid, a promising middle-order batsman, hit 30 off 54 balls with the help of five fours but the rest of the batsmen went tamely. Salisbury rounding up the tailenders in his closing spell of 5-1-9-3.

There was a minor injury scare for England A when the Gloucestershire left-armer, Mike Smith, had to leave the field with a pulled shoulder muscle. But he was back in the field after tea and is expected to be fit to bowl in the second innings.

Nick Knight and Anthony McGrath scored 47 without being separated when the touring team began their reply.

☐ Tim May, one of the three Australian Test players to accuse Salim Malik of offering bribes, had the former Pakistan captain stumped for 16 yesterday in the touring team's match against South Australia in Adelaide. Pakistan nevertheless emerged with a draw thanks to a century from Basit Ali and 96 from Inzamam-ul-Haq.

There is no place for May in the Australia team for the first Test, starting on Thursday, for which Craig McDermott is recalled.

AUSTRALIA 12: M A Taylor (captain), M J Slater, D C Boon, M E Waugh, S R Waugh, G S Blewett, I A Healy, P R Reiffel, B P Julian, S K Warne, C J McDermott, G D McGrath.

London build new powerbase

Castleford 8
London Broncos 37

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE Super League will reveal the game's summer face at its launch in Leeds today, when the roles of London and Paris will be emphasised as among the most important if the £87 million Anglo-French rugby league venture is to succeed.

Paris are an unknown quantity, something which cannot be said of London. With five scalps in the Stones Championship, the threat the Broncos will pose to the northern establishment in the new era is all too obvious.

Castleford had their unbeaten home record torn up by a rampant London, whose ethos is to perfect simplicity. A seven-try victory was secured with Matterson punching huge holes through the home side's defence with his straight running. The inspiration of Dynevor, scorer of three tries, coupled with a compliant defence, rendered Castleford bare.

In a brave new world of Friday, Saturday and Sunday matches, and European and world play-offs — assuming the Super League wins, in sufficient time, its on-going court contest with the Australian Rugby League, where the prize is control of the Australasian arm of the game — much hinges on the credibility of London, whose latest win was their fourth in five matches.

The club has leant on Brisbane for players, and, in the 12-team Super League, will doubtless look to its "big brother" not simply for talent but the marketing, event stage-management and fiscal skills which have in seven years turned Brisbane Broncos into one of the most conspicuous sporting success stories in Australia. A great deal needs to be done but no one disputes that a fine team is taking root in London.

Castleford's only incursions into London's dominance were tries at the end of either half by Middleton and Coventry. In between, they were helpless to resist the all-round invention of London and the impudence of Dynevor, to whom a bewitched home side had no answer.

The scrum half had an early touchdown disallowed for a double movement, but made no mistake thereafter. Two of his tries came from kicking ahead and collecting. His support of a barnstorming break by Bawden, after London had made 85 metres in two tackles, ensured he was there to sidestep the stranded Castleford cover.

The way forward had been shown by Walker, his half-back partner, who bounced off several tacklers to slip Green into the clear. Walker's dropped goal rounded off London's utterly dominant first half, after McKenna had burst on to Matterson's pass and raced outside Darley.

Middleton's try did little to stir Castleford, and the outcome was put beyond reach when Matterson shot over and Dynevor pulled off his second chip-and-catch trick.

SCORERS: Castleford: Tries: Middleton, Coventry, London. Tries: Dynevor (3), Green, McKenna, Matterson, Reilly. Goals: Matterson (3). Dynevor Dropped goal: Walker.

CASTLEFORD: G Steadman; C Smith, R Goddard, A Flynn, S Middleton, A Smith, G Stephens (sub: J Coventry, 49mn), D Sampson, P Darley, N Sykes, B Tuuta, I Smales (sub: A Schick, 49), T Nikau (sub: L Harland, 28)

LONDON BRONCOS: P Hauff; M Reilly, C McKenna, C Green, E Cochrane (sub: S Rockell, 68), B Walker (sub: P Stevens, 72), L Dynevor, T Mestrov, D O'Donnell, D Shaw, R Bawden, P Gill, T Matterson.

Referee: K Kirkpatrick.

St Helens move up

ST HELENS changed places with Halifax in third place in the Stones Centenary Championship as Anthony Sullivan scored four tries in their 58-20 victory over their rivals. Sullivan, the league's leading try-scorer, took his tally for the season to 17 as Halifax, who led 16-10 at the break, folded in the second half.

Mike Umaga, their full-back from Western Samoa, had been outstanding in the first half, scoring a try and setting up another for Carl Gillespie. Sullivan crossed twice for St Helens and Bobbie Goulding kicked a conversion, but four goals by John Schuster gave Halifax a deserved lead.

Immediately after the break, however, Chris Joynt, the man of the match, started the rout and St Helens crossed for a further seven tries. Sullivan completed his hat-trick in the 60th minute. Other touchdowns came from Karle Hammond (2), Keiron Cunningham, Ian Pickavance and Vila Matautia. Goulding converted nine of them.

Campbell's burst burns off rivals

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

MICHAEL CAMPBELL, of New Zealand, had an eagle and four birdies yesterday in his last nine holes in Jakarta. His round of 65 gave him a five-stroke margin of victory in the Dunhill Masters.

For the second successive round, Campbell played the second half of the course in 30 strokes, six under par. In both rounds he needed only 12 putts on the back nine. Yesterday he birdied the 10th, 11th, 13th and 14th holes and eagled the 536-yard 16th, where he hit his three-wood to ten feet.

Mark Mouland, of Wales, who had a 66 yesterday, and Craig Parry, of Australia, whose final round was 69, shared second place on 272. They were 16 under par but lost touch with Campbell during his blistering display on the homeward stretch of a course measuring 7,082 yards.

"That's as good as I can play. I thought it was going to be my day," Mouland said afterwards. Like Campbell, he now heads for China for the World Cup.

Barry Lane, of England, was three strokes behind the leader, Jim Furyk, of the United States, going into the final 18 holes of the Kapalua international tournament in Hawaii after his third round of 69 left him on 204, 13 under par.

Lane was sandwiched between two groups of Americans. Steve Pate, who scored 65, Jim McGovern and Hale Irwin were on 203, while Tom Lehman, Ben Crenshaw and Peter Jacobsen were grouped together on 205.

Sam Torrance, the Scottish Ryder Cup player, although troubled by a thigh strain, went round in 69 to move into joint-fifth place after two rounds of the Sarazen World Open in Braselton, Georgia where the lead is held by Miguel Angel Jimenez, of Spain, with a total of 136, two ahead of the Open champion, John Daly, and his fellow Americans, Craig Stadler and Fuzzy Zoeller.

Jimenez, 31, finished 23rd on the European money list this season, having just missed out on a Ryder Cup place.

Sampras underlines new world ranking

PETE SAMPRAS sealed his return to the No 1 ranking in mens' tennis with a stylish straight-sets victory over Boris Becker in the final of the Paris Open yesterday. Sampras, seeded No 1, had already made sufficient progress in the tournament to gain the points needed to reclaim the leading position that he conceded to Andre Agassi last April, but he seemed determined to underline his authority against the player he defeated in the Wimbledon final last July.

After a tense first set, which ended in a tie-break, Sampras eased through the next two, both 6-4. Becker, of Germany, defended fiercely the title he had won for the last three years but in the end had to bow to the American. Sampras said the victory gave him confidence going into the ATP world championship, which starts in Frankfurt on November 14.

France recall Penaud

RUGBY UNION: The France selectors have recalled Alain Penaud to stand-off half for the international against New Zealand in Toulouse on Saturday after Christophe Deylaud, the first choice, said that he needed a break and asked not to be considered. Penaud is paired at half back with Philippe Carbonneau, who earned his first two caps during the Latin Cup won by France in Argentina last month.

FRANCE: J-L Sadourny; E Ntamack, R Dourthe, T Castaignede, P Saint-Andre (captain); A Penaud, P Carbonneau; L Benezech, M de Rougemont, C Califano, P Benetton, F Pelous, O Merle, A Carminati, A Benazzi.

Steelers on overtime

ICE HOCKEY: Sheffield Steelers reached the final of the Benson and Hedges Cup when a goal by Tony Hand, in the fifth minute of overtime, enabled them to beat a determined and well organised Fife Flyers 6-3 in the second leg of the semi-final on Saturday. Bernie McCrone was outstanding in goal for the Fife side, who lost 8-9 on aggregate. In the premier division, Durham Wasps and Nottingham Panthers both had easy wins.

Scotland take fifth title

BOWLS: Scotland won the Hong Kong International tournament for a record fifth time by beating South Africa in the final yesterday. The pair of Alex Marshall and Kenny Logan beat Neil Burkett and Danny Piketh 19-18. Their victory, which repeated successes in 1985, 1986, 1987 and 1990, came after their narrow qualification for the quarter-finals, having finished fourth in their preliminary group.

Smith's challenge fails



DUATHLON: Spencer Smith, right, the world triathlon champion, failed in his attempt to become world duathlon champion in Cancun, Mexico, yesterday when fatigue forced him to retire. Victory went instead to Oscar Galindez, of Argentina, while Natascha Badmann, of Switzerland, won the women's event. Fiona Lothian, of Scotland, finished sixth.

First for Amaechi

BASKETBALL: John Amaechi, 24, from Stockport, became the first Englishman to make a starting line-up in the National Basketball Association at the weekend, although in a losing cause. Amaechi started for the Cleveland Cavaliers in the 99-88 loss to Orlando Magic and 85-71 defeat by Miami Heat. He scored ten points, staying on court for a total of 51 minutes, and making five rebounds.

Jarvis impresses

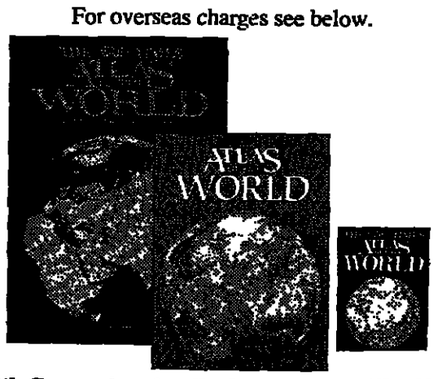
REAL TENNIS: Mark Howard, of Lord's, and Peter Jarvis, of Cambridge, were among the amateurs who reached the final stages of the N.W. Brown national inter-club championship at Moreton Morrell. Jarvis looked particularly impressive, defeating Jim Passell, of Seacourt, and the hard-hitting John Miller, of Moreton. Alex Roberts-Miller, the Oxford University No 1, narrowly failed to go through.

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صكذا من الاصل

Rusedski's power fails to intimidate surprise winner of British national title

Dogged Henman rewrites script

BY STUART JONES
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THE men's final of the national tennis championships at Telford yesterday was supposed to be Greg Rusedski's coronation ceremony. Crowned instead, in bizarre fashion, was Tim Henman, who has come of age by establishing himself as Britain's best home-grown product.

Rusedski, imported from Canada five months ago, was primarily responsible for turning the event into arguably the strongest and indisputably the best attended since it was inaugurated in 1983. He started yesterday as though intending to hold the centre stage on his own.

The top seed, the owner of the fastest serve in the world, blasted his way through the opening set in a mere 19 minutes. When he started the second set by breaking service for the third time, the final was in danger of being the swiftest and most one-sided in the history of the tournament.

It finished instead as the strangest. Henman, transforming the course of the match, took seven games in a row to capture the second set and build a decisive lead in the third. After an hour and 20 minutes, the 21-year-old had gained his first national title, 1-6, 6-3, 6-2.

The champion is in the process of confirming the opinion expressed by Tony Pickard. In his last public statement as the Davis Cup captain, he suggested that there was a youngster capable of brightening the horizon.

The youth he had in mind, long before Rusedski prematurely stirred domestic interest by changing allegiances, was the then 19-year-old from Oxfordshire. At the time, Henman evidently needed to add bulk to his slender frame and, consequently, weight to his strokes.

A broken leg hindered the process and he hobbled around Telford on crutches a year ago, unable to gauge his rate of progress against his peers. In the intervening period, he has accelerated past all of them except Rusedski and there is cause to believe that he may overtake him as well.

Jeremy Bates perceived a striking improvement in Henman's game a couple of months ago. The impression was enhanced when he was overwhelmed in the semi-final by his doubles partner, 6-2, 6-1, in a mere 47 minutes. Rusedski is now prepared to share Pickard's long-range forecast.

"After the three challenger tournaments coming up, Tim should be in the world's top 100," he said having played him for the first time. "If he stays healthy and works hard, there is no reason why he can't make it to the top 50." Henman is now ranked No 116, Rusedski No 41.

Henman is armed with more variety and the more complete all-round game. He lacks only the penetrative power with which Rusedski, in spite of a comparatively weak backhand and service return, can challenge the best.

Henman, clearly, has mental fortitude. He admitted initially to "being worried greatly by the clock monitoring the time of the match". It informed him that he was heading towards a defeat of ignominious rapidity. He hoped that the opposing storm would blow itself out.

It did after the first sustained rally, 42 minutes into the final. Henman, after seeing his attempted backhand pass hit the top of the net and fall on his side of the court, asked Rusedski if he "had that covered". He sensed then, at 2-2, that he might "do something".

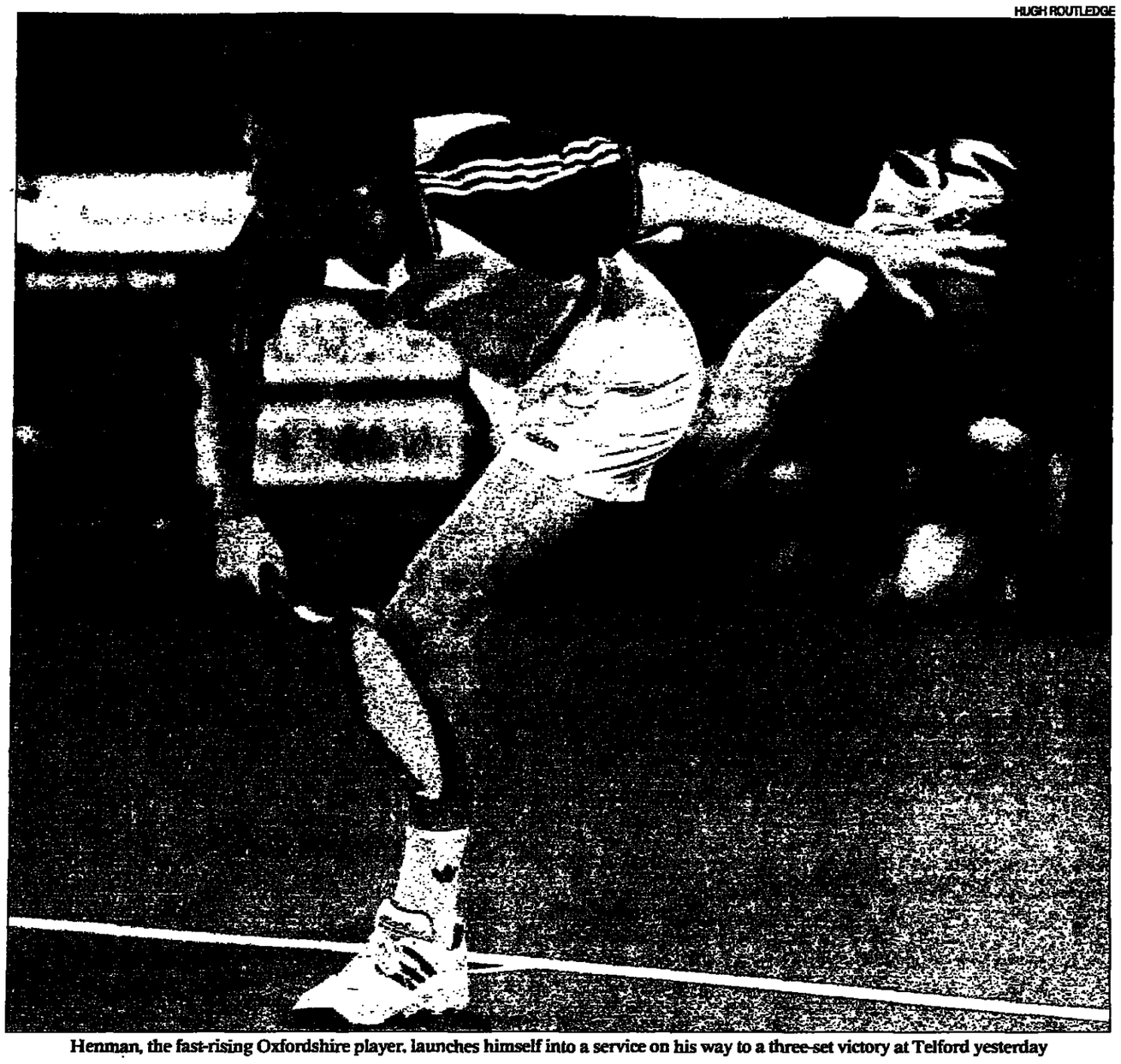
His victory, his eighteenth in a row, maintains the momentum he picked up by winning the tournament in Seoul the previous week. He travelled 5,710 miles to compete at home and his whistlestop tour is not yet over. This morning he is to fly another 5,000 miles to Beijing.

He is scheduled to play his first match there within a few hours of landing tomorrow morning . He may have to go straight from the airport to the court.

"I'm very proud of the title and the prize-money (£9,000 for the men's title and £1,250 as his share of winning the doubles with Bates). But it is disappointing that it doesn't improve my ranking," he said.

In an international tournament, his reward for beating Rusedski would have been automatic qualification for the Australian Open in January.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Henman, the fast-rising Oxfordshire player, launches himself into a service on his way to a three-set victory at Telford yesterday

Smith shows rich promise in final defeat

BY STUART JONES

IN the light of the lavish predictions made on behalf of Jo Ward, last year's women's national tennis champion, who is now some 200 places lower in the world rankings than she was then, it might be considered foolhardy to forecast a bright future for this year's runner-up, Samantha Smith.

However, there is a fundamental difference between the two. Ward, the first unseeded holder of the title, was "the best of a bad bunch". That opinion was offered by Alan Jones, who is also advising Smith during her renaissance. "I think we might just have a player," he said of his new pupil.

In a sense, Smith did herself a favour by losing to Clare Wood. In defeat, the elegant 23-year-old injected a sense of perspective into her reintroduction to the game which appears to come so easily, indeed perhaps too easily, to her. She left it for three years to pursue her academic education.

Since she resumed, she had won 13 of her 16 matches before the final. She had reached the quarter-final of a satellite tournament at Telford, claimed the title at Nottingham and qualified for the WTA Tour event at Brighton, where she lost in the first round to Asa Carlsson.

The only set she had dropped last week was in a tie-break against Jo Durie, seven times the former national champion. Smith had exceeded everybody else's expectations, though not her own, before she was brought down to a more realistic level on Saturday afternoon.

The main problem lay not in her forehead — migraine had been a recurring affliction throughout the week — but in her forehand. By her own admission, it "collapsed". Her strongest weapon became her greatest weakness because of her prolonged absence from the competitive arena.

Intimidated by the occasion, Smith submitted within an hour, 6-2, 6-2. Publicly, she expressed satisfaction with her week's work, but, privately, she intended to "scream her head off" with frustration at her failure to pose even a temporary threat to the top seed.

Indisputably, though, she has the talent to challenge Wood as the nation's No 1. Once she has sharpened her speed and footwork, deficiencies she plans to eradicate at the start of next year, she promises to join her by climbing into the world's top 200.

Wood concedes that she has yet to regain the form and fitness that took her into the top 100 midway through last year. She was nevertheless able to re-establish her domestic status by regaining the title she collected twice before, in 1989 and 1993, without dropping a set.



Wood: won third title in straight sets

Along the way, she saw for herself that the best young prospects are emerging behind an age group whose potential has never been realised. Wood knocked out a couple of 17-year-old qualifiers, Jasmine Choudhury, in the quarter-finals, and the unorthodox Amanda Janes, in the semi-finals.

Wood believes she can use her national title as a springboard towards better things next year. "Winning here was a positive step for me after a bad year with my leg injury," she said. "I still need to work on my speed and fitness but, overall, I was pleased with my game, particularly my backhand."

Domestic arguments lent glamour by northern light

David Powell watches

Jeremy Bates lose one title but lift another at his last national indoor championships

The elderly woman in the red and black checked jacket five rows from the front had her clip-on sunlenses fixed to her spectacles. Yet she was indoors, watching tennis, at the Guardian Direct / national championships in Telford. Fashion-conscious young people wearing designer shades in places where they do not seem necessary is understandable, but a pensioner with clip-ons under a grey roof? I just had to ask.

When Pam Ratcliffe, 75, and her husband, Frank, bought their tickets for the men's semi-finals and women's final on Saturday, they were for block F, row E, facing 12 flood lamps lighting the main court at Telford International Centre. The brightness, she said, made viewing uncomfortable, and by rising her clip-ons at right angles to her glasses she was able to sit there, through the eight-hour session, without suffering a headache. Others had taken the same precaution.

The lighting was a minor irritation to Mrs Ratcliffe and, of course, necessary for the players. On the whole, she said, indoor tennis at Telford was a wonderful occasion. She had been every day since the tournament began last Tuesday (free for pensioners until Saturday) and had secured her ticket for the sold-out men's final the next day too. "Agassi, Sampras, Courier ... there's none of them here," she said. "But there's Bates, Henman and Rusedski. I spoke to him yesterday, got his autograph. Can't read it, could be anybody's. Could be Jack the Ripper's." But it was Greg the Grinner's.

Rusedski reached the final with a 6-4, 6-4 win over Mark Petchey, after which we learnt that they had been using grass-court balls on a synthetic surface, which he thought odd. He grinned as he said it, though. Greg the Grinner. "Nice personality," the man next to me said. His friend agreed.

The International Centre was dressed loudly for this annual occasion to determine the British champions. Green, yellow and blue curtains, red seats, green playing surface and flower boxes. Clare Wood stirred the psychedelic mixture by wearing a design that has surely done a turn as Laura Ashley wallpaper. But the match was dull. Wood beat Samantha Smith 6-2, 6-2.

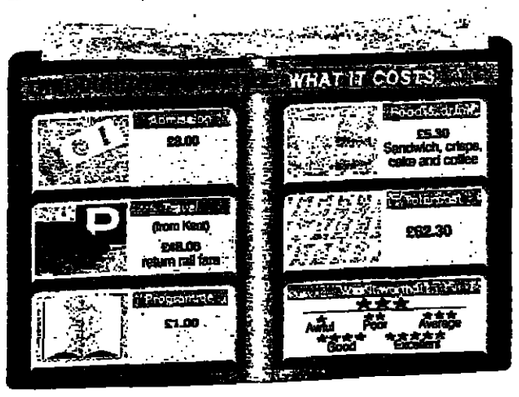
In fact all three singles were dull, straight-sets matches, not a tie-break between them, as competitive as Manchester's bid for the 2002 Commonwealth Games. Nor was there much to amuse one between times. Nowhere to buy tennis equipment or clothing, no betting shop, no bookstalls.

The cafeteria had little beyond sandwiches, cakes, chocolate and token hot meals. A queue was always in evidence for Batak, in which opponents are matched in a game of reflexes, using 30 translucent targets which light up, one at a time, and must be hit with a bat as quickly as possible. It is said to improve reaction and fitness for tennis. If your game does not improve, your fly-swatting should.

The 2,000-seat court was half to two-thirds full most of the day. As good attendances have coincided with Rusedski's first appearance, it is assumed that the former Canadian's presence has generated the extra interest. But, on Saturday, most of the feeling was for Jeremy Bates, in his last nationals before retirement. He was beaten 6-2, 6-1 by Tim Henman, which is encouraging for the future well-being of British tennis if an ignominious surrender of a title Bates has won six times. But he was not to be denied a victorious farewell.

Those who left after the three singles matches were the day's biggest losers. The men's doubles final, in which Bates and Henman defeated Miles Maclagan and Andrew Richardson, provided, at last, a true contest. It last only 17 minutes less than the three singles matches combined, two hours 34 minutes, climaxing in a 13-11 deciding set. There was deuce after deuce, some delightful rallies, and probably a thousand still watching through to the end.

They included, naturally, Mr and Mrs Ratcliffe. "It reminded me of Gonzales years ago. He used to have long matches," Mrs Ratcliffe said, recalling her frequent visits to Wimbledon. Too far and too bustling now for an elderly Telford couple. Thank goodness for the nationals.



Canterbury make most of chances for victory

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

AFTER conceding ten goals in the past two matches, Canterbury achieved the most remarkable result in yesterday's National League hockey programme when they defeated Havant 4-0 at the Polo Farm for their third victory in five outings.

Canterbury made the most of their chances, building solidly on the lead obtained in the 16th minute by Evenett from a short corner.

Mathews increased the advantage with a well-taken goal in the 33rd minute and added another in the 64th minute from a short corner after Hacker had earlier converted a penalty stroke.

Southgate became kings for a day on Saturday when their 3-2 away victory over Guildford put them at the top of the first division table, but Reading regained the leadership yesterday with a 6-1 away victory over St Albans to stay two points clear of Old Loughtonians, who beat Hounslow 3-1.

Osborn scored three goals for Reading, one from a penalty stroke, with Grant Edwards, Wyatt and Pearn adding to the score. Halliday replied for St Albans.

Robert Crutchley, scoring three more goals for Cannock in a 6-1 away victory over East Grinstead, pushed his total to 12. At half-time, Cannock led 3-1, Paul Edwards, Crutchley and Hughes-Rowlands replying to the goal obtained in the first minute for East Grinstead by Champness from a short corner. In the second half Crutchley added two more goals, with Edwards chipping in from a penalty stroke.

Teddington's 5-3 win over Stourport was marred by the dismissal from the pitch of John Royce, the Teddington coach, for dissent after he had been given a warning.

Results, page 32

Two sent off as Eyre secures win for Slough

BY ALIX RAMSAY

IT IS difficult to get through the women's hockey season without at least one dispute, usually involving one of the top clubs complaining that they have been wronged. This weekend Slough and Ipswich were at loggerheads.

For weeks, Slough have been complaining that their title defence has been derailed by losing three players to Great Britain's build-up for the Olympic qualifying tournament in South Africa. Wishing to postpone some of their fixtures until their top players return, they have been told to play on regardless.

Meanwhile, Ipswich were less than impressed to be playing Slough under floodlights at 4pm. The start was delayed because the pitch was fully booked until late afternoon.

As the natural light faded and the feeble floodlights took over, both the players and the umpires were struggling to see the ball. The exchanges became increasingly heated either side of half-time until eventually Leisa King and Ali Burd were sent off for a tetchy but not particularly dirty dust-up.

One of the umpires, Lesley Miller, got herself into a mess, signalling at one point for a penalty stroke then changing her mind to a penalty corner and then thinking again. After much consultation she decided a corner was the order of the day but it made little difference as Ipswich could score from neither — they had earlier missed a penalty stroke and this time they missed from the corner.

Eventually Sally Eyre settled matters, earning Slough victory after 57 minutes.

Meanwhile Sutton Coldfield moved into pole position thanks to a Jane Swinnerton goal in the 1-0 win over Doncaster, and Hightown took second place with a 4-1 demolition of Bracknell.

Woking lay foundations for challenges to come

Woking 3
Morecambe 0

BY WALTER GAMMIE

TWO teams are at work at Woking, and both are doing handsomely. The one wearing the red and white halves clinched an eighth successive home victory on Saturday to stay hot on the heels of Macclesfield Town at the top of the Vauxhall Conference; the one wearing the hard hats and donkey jackets is rapidly turning Kingfield into a ground that can keep pace with the club's ambitions.

During the half-time interval, the supporters were given an assurance that the work on the 2,000-seat stand behind the goal at the west end of the ground is on schedule to beat the December 31 deadline set by the Football League for Conference clubs to reach their standards. Indeed, they were invited to view cranes hoisting up the second roof support on Wednesday.

The season's best crowd of 2,679 was then warned by Paul Elmer, chairman of the ground development committee, for many years a visionary waiting in the wings, that its comforts would suffer further as crush barriers needed to be added to existing terracing and the roof extended behind the other goal. The limited capacity will make the match against Kidderminster Harriers in three weeks' time all ticket. Such inconveniences can be borne lightly when things are running as smoothly on the pitch as they have been at Kingfield for Geoff Chapple's team. Given a flying start by Scott Steele's fourth-minute goal, they settled the match in a purple patch after half-time.

Full results and league tables ... Page 28

In the 52nd minute, Darran Hay struck home a ball that fell kindly into space after a shot by Steve Thompson, Woking's classy recent signing from Wycombe Wanderers, had been blocked. Three minutes later, Clive Walker, freed by a neat interchange on the right touchline, squared for Steele to score with an outrageous side-footed shot that saw the ball arc past Banks. With a shot by Fielder hitting the bar, and Hay and Walker going close, it could have become a rout.

Morecambe, however, never flagged in attack and Batty was forced to make an excellent, full-stretch save from Norman to add to the splendidly-timed block with his feet that had denied McCluskie in the first half.

Morecambe, newcomers to the Conference this season, can take heart from looking around the emerging Kingfield. After all, this is only Woking's fourth season in the top flight of non-league football. Their progress has been rapid indeed.

WOKING (5-2-1-2): L Batty — J Crumplin, K Brown, C Fielder, M Tucker, D Timothy — S Thompson, A Ellis — S Steele — D Hay (sub: R Peters, 89min), C Walker.
MORECAMBE (3-1-4-2): A Banks — A Hughes, P Tomlinson, B Stimpson — P Burns — M Knowles, I Cain, I Horrigan (sub: J Norman, 67), P Comstive — J Coleman, J McCluskie (sub: M Carcella, 77).
Referee: P March.

Jansher facing tougher route

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN NICOSIA

THE late withdrawal through illness of Peter Marshall, the No 2 seed and top British player, from the main draw of the world open squash championship has complicated the title defence of Pakistan's Jansher Khan. The title-holder is chasing a seventh victory that would overtake the record of his illustrious compatriot, Jahangir Khan.

The original draw, which also included the now-retired former world champion, Ross Norman, offered Jansher a relatively untroubled progress to a semi-final against Peter Nicol, the Scottish champion who upset him in the Leekes Classic last year. His greatest challenge in the early rounds would previously have come from the encouragingly resurgent Del Harris.

But now Jahangir, 26, finds the redoubtable John Ransome emerging from the qualifying finals to make today's opening match rather more testing than he would have liked. The unpredictable Danny Meddings looks a likely second-round opponent, and Simon Parke, the in-form young Yorkshireman, a probable quarter-final challenger.

Nicol's quarter has become less demanding with Harris's move down to the bottom half of the draw and a quarter-final against the new second seed, Rodney Eyles, of Australia, now seems probable. A similar Anglo/Australian clash looks likely in the other quarter between Chris Walker and Brett Martin.

It is a bottom half of boiling potential, with Stephen Meades, the British champion, looking for an opportunity to emphasise his dissatisfaction with Walker's selection ahead of him for the England squad contesting the world team championship in Cairo next week. Mark Chaloner, the surprise selection in place of Marshall, is offered a chance of instant fame against Brett Martin, if he can deal with the experienced Philip Whitlock first.

Ahmed Faizy, 16, of Egypt, probably the youngest world open qualifier, plays Tony Hands, of England today.

McGhee's new boys provide icing on City's cake

West Bromwich Albion . 2
Leicester City 3

BY KEITH PIKE

ENGLISH football's league of nations welcomed two additional members yesterday, and Zeljko Kalac and Pontus Kamark, appearing in Leicester City blue for the first time, will have fond memories of their inauguration, Kamark in particular.

That they were upstaged by a player born and raised in Berkshire will not bother them, or Leicester, one bit.

Scott Taylor, who followed Mark McGhee, his former manager at Reading, to Filbert Street for £500,000 in the summer, scored twice as City moved back into second place in the Endsleigh Insurance league first division with a performance that confirmed them as the best passing team in the division by some distance.

Both of Taylor's goals came at the conclusion of movements that had Albion bemused to the point of humiliation. Leicester's display in the opening 45 minutes, during which they scored all three of their goals, would be difficult to better.

That Albion, who would have gone second themselves with victory, recovered to make a game of it was testimony to their spirit.

Leicester have now taken 20 points out of 24 on their travels and their recent acquisitions will only improve their chances of a return to the FA Carling Premiership at the first time of asking.

Kalac, the Australia goalkeeper, bought for £740,000 from Sydney United, stands 6ft 7ins and, until a late mistake gifted Albion their second goal, was as authoritative as he is immense.

Kamark, who cost £100,000 more, could be an even better investment.

The full back, capped 23 times by Sweden, last week helped IFK Gothenburg to win the Swedish league, and settled into the more physical environment of the first division with panache, his coolness under pressure and pace going forward adding considerably to Leicester's armoury.

Once they had taken the sting out of Albion's initial attacks, Leicester settled into a rhythm that their hosts could not disrupt for an hour. Taylor's first goal, a header that bounced over Naylor, came in the 13th minute after a magnificent move on the left involving Parker, Whitlow, and Lowe, who made the cross.

Taylor repeated the trick on the stroke of half-time, this after Parker, Whitlow and Robins had worked another triangle on the left, and with Roberts — set up by Kamark — beating the badly positioned Naylor from 25 yards in between. Albion were in danger of being overwhelmed.

Hamilton replied on the hour, and Raven profited form the goalkeeper's error three minutes from time to give Albion a margin of defeat that flattered them.

WEST BROMWICH ALBION (4-4-2) S Naylor; D Burgess, P Mardon, P Raven, P King (sub, S Cunnington 46), L Ashcroft, S Goldcott, I Hamilton, D Gilbert, R Taylor, A Hunt.
LEICESTER CITY (5-3-2) Z Kalac; P Kamark, C Hill, F Rollings, B Carey, M Whitlow; S Taylor (sub M Blake 69) G Parker, D Lowe, M Robins, I Roberts.
Referee: R Gifford.

Wind of change blowing through Highbury



David Miller sees a new-look Arsenal earn a 1-0 victory against Manchester United

The ingredients are the same but the product is different. A wind of change, in the shape of Bruce Rioch, is sweeping through Highbury. The ball now travels, pleasingly, by ground transport instead of by air. There is hope yet for the troubled English game.

Arsenal and Manchester United provided a Premiership match of ceaseless action and uncertainty until the final whistle: a match that left any spectator, of whatever hue, exhilarated and gratified rather than bored and frustrated. The play was a credit to both sides and confirmed, if confirmation were needed, that English football need not be like trench warfare, that players need only intelligent direction and coaching.

Manchester United brought their usual dexterity to Highbury and instead of the brutal confrontation we saw last season, here was an afternoon of electric movement built around passing the ball to shirts of the same colour. Wonderful to behold.

The only newcomers in an Arsenal team, that was simultaneously deserving yet lucky to win by Bergkamp's single goal, are Platt and Bergkamp. Yet while the discipline and defensive qualities, as solid as a tank-trap, that characterised George Graham's reign remain in place, the mood of the team has shifted. Bould and Adams are still there, as familiar as the pillars of Tower Bridge, but suddenly the ball has become a friend.

I cannot recall an Arsenal team so persistently and attractively fluent since that which finished 14th and earned Billy Wright the sack as manager 30 years ago. Remember them? Furnell (or Burns); Howe and Storey; McLintock, Ure and Neill (or Court); Skirton, Sammels (or Radford), Baker, Eastham and Armstrong. Memorable days.

Graham brought Arsenal a string of trophies — along with his own dishonour — but as manager largely foresook the Dave Sexton-Charlie Cooke school at Chelsea from which he rose, preferring the Bertie Mee-Don Howe functionalism that followed Wright. Rioch, remembered for his ball-playing contribution to a flowing Derby County team, is persuading Arsenal — Graham's players — to utilise the same touch game as United. Discussing the metamorphosis afterwards, Rioch emphasised the extent to which Arsenal are now concentrating on interpassing throughout their training programme. There would not be much point in buying Bergkamp were they not.

Bergkamp, who comes deep just as Baker used to, has the same movement and control as the mercurial Scotsman. It was his balance and eye that brought the decision moment after a quarter of an hour. A long through pass by Platt seemed to be effectively in Irwin's possession as the full-back moved backwards towards Schmeichel in goal. However, under pressure from Bergkamp, and being too close to his goalkeeper for a back pass, the Republic of Ireland international somehow lost possession. — his first mistake in five years, both Alex Ferguson and Paddy Crerand, nowadays a commentator, reflected. With the smallest of targets, the Dutchman flicked a shot between Schmeichel's legs and his left hand post.

For the next 75 minutes there was an unbroken duel of intelligence and skill. Scholes, Cantona, Butt and Giggs had already threatened to direct the tide of the game, only to be denied by Arsenal's rearguard and the erratic finishing of Cole. After a year, Cole seems no nearer a compatible sychronisation with Cantona, and five minutes before half-time, taking Cantona's sweetly curled pass in his stride, Cole shot against Seaman when he should surely have scored.

If Cantona's passing was often a delight, and Giggs' dribbling likewise, — there was a purple patch in the five minutes after half-time — Arsenal were showing a willingness to work the ball in response. Platt's experience is seen to be influencing even the dour Keown, while the swift, penetrative running of Merson and Helder on the flanks brought United constant alarm.

Bookings for Neville and Merson were no indication of meanness of spirit, and in the middle of the second half Arsenal seemed likely to extend their lead, United weathering extended pressure.

Again the game swung, and in the last 15 minutes Beckham, substituting for Scholes, was blocked by Bould and Giggs denied by Seaman, who had to save at full stretch from Cantona. In the last minute of an exhilirating conflict, Merson hit a post and Bergkamp's shot struck Neville.

ARSENAL (4-4-2): D Seaman — L Dixon, S Bould, T Adams, N Winterburn — P Merson, M Keown, D Platt, G Helder — I Wright (sub: J Harlson, 80min), D Bergkamp.
MANCHESTER UNITED: (4-4-2): P Schmeichel; G Neville, S Bruce, G Pallister, D Irwin (sub: B McClair, 81); N Butt (sub: L Sharpe 84), R Keane, E Cantona, R Giggs, P Scholes (sub: D Beckham 84), A Cole.
Referee: P Durkin (Dorset).

Coventry receive lesson from master craftsman

Coventry City 2
Tottenham Hotspur ... 3

BY ANDREW LONGMORE

AFTER the fossilisation of British teams in Europe last week, the pleasure at Highfield Road on Saturday in finding an English footballer higher up the evolutionary scale than the dinosaur one, weighed the despair of an FA Carling Premiership match typical of the species. Teddy Sheringham was so far ahead of the rest in thought and deed, so composed, full of vision and precision, purposeful and inventive that a search warrant should be issued to trace his family tree. A Dutch grandfather or a Danish mother, surely, would explain the un-English gene that makes Sheringham actually think before acting?

But, no. Teddy is pure-bred, from Highams Park, east London, and, what is more, he spent the first eight seasons of his working life at Millwall, that recognised home of the cultured footballer, which gives the lie to the idea that England cannot produce players with continental technique and tactical nous from unpromising beginnings.

At Nottingham Forest and, now, Tottenham Hotspur, he has worked hard, kept improving and is a master of his craft, not just a talented goalscorer but a true leader of the line.

Sheringham made the first goal with a header on for Fox, scored the second, his twelfth of the season, with a delicate chip to put Tottenham 2-1 ahead and, seconds after half-time, released Rosenthal, whose cross fell kindly for Howells to seal the issue. Little surprise, then, that his manager, Gerry Francis, does not believe there is a better all-round centre forward operating in the Premiership.

"He's right at the top of his game at the moment," Francis said. "You will never find him standing still when the ball is delivered into him. He's always moving off players, finding little bits of space, bringing people into the game. He's as good as I've worked with."

Remembering that Francis coached Les Ferdinand at Queens Park Rangers, that was high praise. A few at Coventry City would be better able to understand why Terry Venables picked Sheringham above the fashionable Ferdinand among the England substitutes against Norway.

He is not as strong as either Alan Shearer or Ferdinand, does not have the pace to run past defenders and score spectacular goals. He is not particularly eye-catching. But he might prove a better bet than either at international level where inches of space are precious and the chances to storm past defenders rare.

"Our defending was nothing short of scandalous." Ron Atkinson, the Coventry manager, said. "It's very hard to keep scoring goals when you're giving so many away." Dublin had not found much difficulty, bundling the ball home after just seven minutes to give Coventry the lead. He could have equalised with the final kick of the match, too. Williams's deflected drive early in the second half having given Coventry hope, but his close-range shot was blocked.

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): J Filan — B Borrows (sub: A Pickering, 74min), D Rennie, D Busst, M Hall — P Telfer, K Richardson, P Williams, J Salako — D Dublin, N Lampkey (sub: Isaias, 74).
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — D Austin, S Campbell, G Mabbutt, C Wilson — R Fox, D Howells, J Dozzell, R Rosenthal (sub: C Calderwood, 70) — C Armstrong, E Sheringham.
Referee: J Winter.

Full results and league tables ... Page 28

Blackburn forced to suffer by Stuart

Everton 1
Blackburn Rovers 0

BY PETER BALL

A GOAL by Graham Stuart brought Everton their first win in the FA Carling Premiership since August yesterday and served to dispel the storm clouds gathering over Goodison Park. The three points take them four places up the table to thirteenth, and, more important, four points clear of the relegation zone.

For Blackburn Rovers, the afternoon was more bleak. Their embarrassment in Europe over the past two months has been well-documented but, worryingly for Ray Harford, the manager, they are finding domestic challenges almost as difficult to overcome.

With one point from six games, their away record is only marginally better than those of Bolton Wanderers and Manchester City. Blackburn have not won away from Ewood Park since beating Queens Park Rangers in April, four days after winning at Goodison Park. On that occasion it took them 14 seconds to score; for all their huffing and puffing yesterday, they managed only one half-hit shot on target, from Lars Bohinen, in 90 minutes.

"We didn't create any chances," Harford said. "We were very poor in the first half and they were the better team by far."

Everton had had their disappointments in Europe during the week, and both teams returned to the certainties of the English League with some relish. The pace was relentless, sweat was expended by the bucketload and tackles crashed in, but thought was at a premium, subtlety a nasty foreign invention not to be countenanced on an English afternoon. Even Kanchelskis and Limpar got caught up in it, putting crosses into the Park End within a minute of each other halfway through the first half.

But, among the hurly-burly, Everton's superiority was sometimes visible. The dogs of war were back, Ebbrell and Parkinson dominating midfield to win tackle after tackle, with Ebbrell earning the man-of-the-match award.

They were too much for Blackburn, who at times looked like being overpowered and overrun, at least in midfield. Sherwood resisted determinedly but Bohinen had a quiet game and Batty looked like a pirhana out of water marooned on the left.

From the start, Everton's greater eagerness was obvious. Watson was booked after just ten minutes for a mistimed tackle on Shearer and,from that moment, their greater enthusiasm for the fray was unmistakable. Blackburn had a couple of moments to encourage them when first Sherwood and then Kenna broke through from midfield, but Shearer's pass eluded Sherwood and Watson did enough to put Bohinen off as he went for the shot.

From that moment the game began to tilt more and more in the home side's favour. Flowers saved at the second attempt from one effort by Stuart, but the goalkeeper was left helpless the second time the diminutive forward got the goal in his sights.

It was a goal that looked out of context in this game and, fittingly, the main protagonists in the build-up were the Swede and the Ukrainian. Limpar's searching long pass sent Kanchelskis behind Kenna and although Kanchelskis was half-stopped as he cut into the penalty area, the ball ran loose for Stuart, who beat Flowers with a low shot tucked just inside his right-hand post.

From then on, Flowers it was who saved Blackburn from a more embarrassing beating with excellent saves from Stuart and Rideout before half-time and an outstanding one from Ablett after the interval. Flowers's acrobatics ensured that Blackburn stayed in the game, and sheer effort gave Everton a testing last 15 minutes, but even then the champions did not create a serious opportunity.

EVERTON (4-4-2): N Southall — M Jackson, D Watson, C Short, G Ablett — A Kanchelskis, J Ebbrell, J Parkinson, A Limpar — G Stuart (sub: D Amokachi, 71min), P Rideout.
BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — H Berg, I Pearce (sub: G Le Saux, 63), C Hendry, J Kenna — S Ripley, T Sherwood, L Bohinen, D Batty — A Shearer, M Newell (sub: C Sutton, 82).
Referee: A Wilde.

GRANT NORMAN



Hendry, left, the Blackburn Rovers defender, is closely watched by Stuart at Goodison Park yesterday

Shootout victory for Stenhousemuir after 111 years

KEVIN McCARRA
Scottish commentary



THERE are some gifts, like a cardigan from an aunty on Christmas morning, that can only be received with a pretence of pleasure. Dundee United may, in similar fashion, have spent the past week wondering just how well they would feign delight when receiving the Challenge Cup, a competition for clubs in the three lower divisions of the Bells Scottish League.

Merely to be eligible for such a prize is embarrassing to first division United, who, as recently as 1994, were winners of the Tennents Scottish Cup itself. At McDiarmid Park yesterday, however, Stenhousemuir solved the problem crisply by beating the Tannadice team 5-4 on penalty kicks after a 0-0 draw and extra time.

United may not have cared much about winning the Challenge Cup but losing it to a part-time side from the Second Division hurt deeply. Supporters threw away their scarves in disgust and resentment at an outcome that threatens to poison the club's attempts to win promotion this season.

Flippancy about the Challenge Cup cannot survive a proper understanding of its significance. This day ended 111 years of yearning for Stenhousemuir, who had never before reached the final of a national competition. The extent of the achievement was registered in the miles men had travelled to witness it.

Natives of Larbert now resident in Holland, Australia and New York came to McDiarmid Park in the hope of beholding an engraver applying the name of their home town team to a cup trophy. Stenhousemuir is, surprisingly enough, also a word with international connotations.

Anyone driving to Perth would have been baffled by the sight on the road of a bus decked out in Norwegian flags. In Oslo it has almost become chic to declare devotion to this little Scottish club. These matters would lose their appeal if sullied by a proper explanation, but it is reported that the name Stenhousemuir has the evocative meaning of "little stone house" in Norwegian.

The team itself proved to be more of a fortress yesterday. So solid was Stenhousemuir's construction that they barred United from getting into the game. This club is more than a piece of vivid whimsy and they were sufficiently in earnest last season to knock Aberdeen out of the Scottish Cup.

Like all sides fashioned by Terry Christie, the manager, Stenhousemuir are well drilled and shrewd. When he was in charge of Meadowbank Thistle, opponents used to rage over the frequency with which an expertly contrived corner kick would inflict defeat. Stenhousemuir also manufactured havoc at such situations against Dundee United but their repertoire is far more extensive.

Christie likes to collect know-how and his three central defenders have a combined age of 112. George McGeachie, at 36, is a junior partner beside Eamonn Bannon, 37, who once supplied the craft in midfield during some of Dundee United's great European victories. The final member of the triumvirate, Graeme Armstrong, 39, has played the dizzying total of 753 league games.

The three players coped easily in this match and the only task that may have proved daunting was the trudge forward by Bannon and McGeachie on old and weary legs to convert their penalties. Christie, though, is not bent on preserving the history of the game within his team.

There is space in the ranks too for frisky youngsters with reputations still to establish. The goalkeeper, Roddy McKenzie, 20, was most impressive of all, winning the man of the match award for a few athletic saves in normal time and his decisive blocking of Craig Brewster's penalty in the shoot-out.

At the end Norwegian cowbells rang out in celebration but only a callous onlooker would have found the moment surreal. Stenhousemuir had finally attained glory after striving against disappointment since 1884.

Sunderland miss opportunity to climb table



Michael Gray: scorer

Charlton Athletic 1
Sunderland 1

BY PAT GIBSON

SUNDERLAND missed the opportunity to move into third place in the Endsleigh Insurance League first division but they played well enough to suggest that the great North East revival is not confined to Tyneside and Teesside. As Peter Reid, the Wearsiders' manager, said: "We are getting there."

They will get there that much quicker if David Kelly and Philip Gray start taking the kind of chances that the likes of Ferdinand and Barmby would accept blindfolded, although Reid was happy enough with a performance which means that his side has now gone through ten league matches without defeat.

Their confidence showed in the way they dictated the game from the start and it was completely against the run of play when Charlton took the lead in their first attack. Robson, who was only in the side because Robinson was suspended, swung the ball over from the left and Newton moved smartly in from the right to get in front of Scott and head into the far corner.

Sunderland were level within minutes and it was two wide players, or wingers in the context of this match, who were responsible. Russell cut in to beat Stuart and reach the byline before pulling the ball back into the goalmouth. Philip Gray flicked it on and, when Kelly's shot was blocked, Michael Gray drove the ball past Salmon.

The game never reached the same heights again. Sunderland passed the ball around beautifully with Bracewell and Ball controlling the midfield and Russell and Michael Gray always threatening, but the opportunities they had to win came by courtesy of the Charlton defence.

First Chapple tripped over the ball on the edge of the penalty area and left Kelly with only Salmon to beat, but the striker for whom Sunderland paid almost a million pounds blazed into the stand.

Then, five minutes from the end, Rufus swung at the ball and missed it completely. Philip Gray had the goal at his mercy but again the shot sailed harmlessly over the bar.

In between times, Charlton had lost Salmon, who had torn a thigh muscle and eventually gave way to Amman. Charlton were fortunate to have another goalkeeper on the substitutes' bench and even more fortunate to escape with a point.

CHARLTON (4-4-2): M Salmon (sub: M Ammen, 26min) — J Humphrey, R Rufus, P Chapple, J Stuart — S Newton, C Walsh, L Bowyer (sub: K Jones, 72), M Robson (sub: K Grant, 72) — G Nelson, C Leaburn
SUNDERLAND (4-4-2): A Chamberlain — D Kubicki, A Melville, R Ord, M Scott — C Russell (sub, S Aston, 78), P Bracewell, K Ball, M Gray — P Gray, D Kelly
Referee: K Leach.

County revel in Nicol's influence

Burnley 3
Notts County 4

BY IAN RODGERS

IT SHOULD have been one of the better weeks for Burnley supporters. Success in midweek at Peterborough and the frustration of their near-neighbours, Blackburn Rovers, in the European Cup Champions' League appeared to have ensured an air of celebration at the Endsleigh Insurance League second division match with Notts County on Saturday.

However, County were unaware of their intended role in proceedings, exhibiting the style of a side that had lost only once in the past ten games to gatecrash the revelry at Turf Moor.

Last year the County winger, Andy Legg, received the accolade of an appearance in *The Guinness Book of Records* for the longest throw-in. Burnley chose to ignore the words of wisdom. Legg's set pieces comfortably eclipsed the home defence on numerous occasions and eventually led to Arkins cancelling out Burnley's opening goal by Kurt Nogan.

Indeed, County went in at the interval a goal to the good, courtesy of Devlin's penalty kick, but the lead was largely inspired by Steve Nicol. The former Liverpool player consistently demonstrated the irrelevance of age and his influence was immeasurable on the younger players around him.

The 3-1 platform which was fashioned for County by Baraclough in the second half looked unassailable. Cooke revived home hopes, however, before Devlin restored County's two-goal advantage and Nogan ensured a tense finish.

The scoreline coupled with the league proximity of the teams suggested little disparity. Needless to say, this was an entertaining affair but only County truly charmed.

BURNLEY (4-4-2): M Beresford — G Parkinson, (sub: A Cooke, 81min), M Winstanley, P Swan, C Vinnicombe — T McMinn, (sub: A Randall, 45), J Hoyland, G Harrison, P McDonald (sub: J Francis 78) — D Eyres, K Nogan.
NOTTS COUNTY (4-4-2): D Ward — G Mills, G Strodder, S Murphy, I Baraclough (sub: T Agana 78) — T Gallagher, S Nicol, M Simpson, A Legg — P Devlin, V Ariens.
Referee: R Pearson.

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Newcastle display great character to staunch red tide



Barnes: pulled strings in Liverpool midfield

Newcastle United 2
Liverpool 1

By Rob Hughes
Football Correspondent

ALMOST exactly a year ago, Lady Luck turned her back on Newcastle United's quest to reclaim the title of English champions, a longing not satisfied since the 1926-27 season. On Saturday, at St James' Park, the lady favoured everything Newcastle did in a contest controlled by Liverpool for long spells, a contest between the two most accomplished sides in the FA Carling Premiership.

Kevin Keegan, honest as ever, admitted that his team had been mesmerised by the passing quality of Liverpool, the club where he learnt many of his good habits. He had seen his players, particularly for half an hour after half-time, chasing the Liverpool men in red as if they were Pimpernels. However, Keegan knows that the difference between his side last season and this is that they have the patience, the character and the conditioning to come back late in the game, to steal points earned more on willpower than merit.

To claim that these are the outstanding sides in the land requires at least some justification. Liverpool pass the ball with a rhythm and an accuracy unmatched by anyone. Newcastle have, in Beardsley, Ginola and Ferdinand, match-winners even on their less convincing days.

Manchester United may have more high-quality individuals, but not yet a blend after the summer sales and the intermittent surrender to indiscipline. Arsenal, so solid and daunting at the back, still have only labourers in midfield and do not serve the talents of Wright and Bergkamp often enough.

None of the others have the good behaviour, the concentration of footballing endeavours, that lift Newcastle and Liverpool. Hence, though the battle was wholehearted, there was no card of any colour.

Yet the ramifications of last week in Europe were still present. Liverpool, I believe, would not have lost had fatigue not overtaken them in the final ten minutes, fatigue which showed in the cramp twice suffered by Rob Jones who, four days after Liverpool lost to Brondby, manfully coped with Ginola.

Another failing in Europe had been the lack of concentration. It stems from discomfort on the ball, and the fact that British players have to think whenever they put foot to the ball, and so often to retrieve sloppily discarded possession. Thus, after only two minutes, Babb gave the ball away to Lee.

He instantly found Ginola, and from him the ball passed to Ferdinand. Twice Ferdinand was to expose Wright, whose form had been so convincing of late. First, with both muscle and elusive craft, Ferdinand beat the big centre half and Beresford then dipped the ball towards the goalmouth. Gillespie mis-hit his shot, but Ferdinand was aware of the miscue, was too quick again for Wright, and stretched to score his seventeenth goal in 15 Newcastle appearances.

In the tenth minute, Liverpool equalised with a goal which reciprocated some of the defensive failings. Barnes, the catalyst of so much of Liverpool's good work, released Harkness from the left. From his cross, Peacock headed the ball straight to McManaman. His first instinct was to look for one of the strikers and he found Rush with an inviting through ball. Rush was altogether too alert, too hungry for Peacock, simply tucking the ball into the goal from five yards.

The match swayed for a while. James saved athletically from Lee; Beardsley cheekily chipped the goalkeeper, but fractionally over the bar. Then Barnes took the baton and conducted the play.

Barnes uses McManaman and Redknapp as his two runners, his confidants. They surge from midfield positions and, on Saturday, they perplexed the opposition, particularly young Watson. Yet, it was the constant prompting of Barnes that caught the eye and made him appear, even at his age, a more likely playmaker for England than Gascoigne, who was so exposed, apparently so disinterested, as Rangers succumbed to Juventus last Wednesday.

McManaman, with a shot deflected off Peacock, almost won the match, but Hislop bravely and acrobatically recovered to push the ball on to a post. Then Rush squandered an opportunity devised by Redknapp and Fowler was equally profligate with a chance skilfully created by Collymore.

Then, in the last great surge, Newcastle won. There were 31 seconds left. Lee fired a low, skimming shot which James possibly saw late. He could not hold the ball and Watson swooped to poach the winner. A clear, almost-full moon had lifted over the Gallowgate stand, and now smiled on Newcastle's fortunes. For Watson would not have been on the field had Clark been fit, and would have been substituted for his failings had not Gillespie pulled a hamstring. Keegan shook his head, embraced Evans and gave him a peck on the cheek — a kiss, and also an apology.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-1-1): S Hislop — W Barton, D Peacock, S Howey, J Beresford — K Gillespie (sub: P Albert, 65min), R Lee, S Watson, D Ginola — P Beardsley — L Ferdinand.
LIVERPOOL (3-4-1-2): D James — M Wright, J Scales, P Babb — R Jones, J Redknapp, J Barnes, S Harkness — S McManaman — I Rush (sub: S Collymore, 75min), R Fowler
Referee: M Reed

Dominant Sky Blues produce first win to savour

Manchester City 1
Bolton Wanderers 0

By Peter Ball

IT TOOK until the closing minutes for *Blue Moon* to be heard at Maine Road on Saturday. Manchester City supporters have seen that other-phenomenon, the false dawn, too often to get easily carried away. But the refrain came through at last, soon replaced by full-blooded cheers as the final whistle blew.

That signalled that City had claimed their first FA Carling Premiership win of the season at the twelfth attempt, and had closed the gap on the teams above them, halting Bolton Wanderer's bid to get out of the bottom three at the same time. With Manchester United losing, it was a good moment for the blue sector of the city to savour.

City being City, they did it in some style, as Alan Ball was quick to tell us. "What was most pleasing in the position we are in was that we played some very good football," the manager said.

City did. Particularly in the first half, when the command of Kinkladze, the dangerous runs from midfield of Flitcroft and some outstanding lead-

Full results and league tables ... Page 28

ing of the line by Quinn threatened to tear Bolton apart.

The goal was one of which the league's leading teams would have been proud. Quinn hit a pass to Kinkladze, who had made a telling run forward, and the midfield player turned the ball to his right into the path of Summerbee with equal perceptiveness.

Summerbee has had his troubles this season, but he accepted the chance with unexpected assurance. "If that isn't the goal of the month, then Yeboah will have to come up with something special," Ball said.

Winning one game at home against fellow strugglers is one thing: it will only be meaningful if City build on it over the weeks ahead. For all their good approach work, Ball's team managed only one goal from half a dozen good chances. They have now scored four in 12 Premiership games, and Summerbee's was the first to come from the foot rather than a header, which doesn't say much for their shooting.

The performance of the opposition should also warn against excessive enthusiasm. In the first half Bolton were unrecognisable from the side that had beaten Arsenal on Monday.

"I bet they got a rocket at half-time," Ball said. They did, and with Bolton changing formation to counter City's midfield superiority, the second half was much tighter — but Lee missed their best chance and Bolton could not manage an equaliser.

"The disappointing thing is that we've come off a good win on Monday, and you should build on that, but we've not been capable of building on it," Colin Todd, Bolton's joint manager, said afterwards. "Now we've got to start all over again."

MANCHESTER CITY (4-3-1-2): E Immel — J Foster (sub: G Creaney, 88min), K Symons, K Curle, R Edghill — N Summerbee, G Flitcroft (sub: M Brown, 70), S Lomas — G Kinkladze — N Quinn, U Rosler.
BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K Branagan — S McAnespie, C Fairclough, G Bergsson, J Phillips (sub: S Green, 83) — D Lee, S Curcic (sub: F de Freitas, 80), A Stubbs, A Thompson — J McGinlay, M Paatelainen (sub: M Patterson, 41).
Referee: R Hart.

Simon Barnes watches the diminutive Brazilian justify his top billing

Juninho prolongs carnival on Teesside

ANDRE CAMARA



A posse of Leeds players including Kelly, left, Wetherall and Whelan, right, closes in as Juninho tries to weave a path through them.

JUNINHO, the boy from Brazil who learnt his football on the beaches of São Paulo while he danced to the rhythm of salsa music in his sombrero ... but that is quite enough mythology, because he is here now, actually here in Middlesbrough, and it is quite impossible not to add the phrase "of all places".

Though São Paulo is not exotic, it is a vast, sprawling, seedy suburb of itself: a giant no-place, a megalomaniacal Middlesbrough and, like Middlesbrough, like every other city on earth, it is a bad place to be poor.

Thousands of words have been written about Juninho in recent weeks, and all come to one conclusion: he is very small. On Saturday, in the 1-1 draw with Leeds United, we learnt that he is also as fragile and delicate as a steel bar.

He learnt his football in the streets, like most people in most countries: like people did here before the motor car took over the universe. He continued to learn on hard, bony football pitches. Beaches, indeed! In Brazil, like anywhere else where the game is worth playing, football is uncompromisingly hard.

Perhaps the most significant part of the afternoon was Juninho's yellow card. He was booked for bringing down Yeboah, the biggest and hardest man on the pitch. Two Leeds players were booked for bringing down Juninho, but he kept jumping up again.

Still, what an extraordinary afternoon. There was a sense of disbelief hanging over the place: here was the Brazilian footballer of the year and here, too, was Middlesbrough. Even the Teessiders must have added secretly "of all places". It is like seeing the Queen in Tesco, or meeting the Pope for a quick jar.

Ah, but can he play. Ten minutes into the game, gliding away from a thundering lunge from Kelly, he switched on pace that can cause nightmares, moved into pleasant acres of space unknown in Brazil, and sent a cleverly angled ball to Fjortoft. Fjortoft supplied a classy finish and joy was unconfined.

Speed, yes, and speed of thought. A wonderful array of tricks, too. There were two touches of perfection when he didn't actually touch the ball at all. One was a brilliant stepover that opened the defence for an unmarked Barmby, the other came when he *ran away* from the ball, watched a lunging defender loom past, and then collected the ball to take it away in the opposite direction.

He faded in the second half, as he was entitled to do, after a hectic week of lionisation. He was substituted just as he was getting his second wind, but went off to a huge roar.

Leeds spoilt the script, of course. Their goal, late in the first half, pricked Middlesbrough's balloon of self-belief. It began with Yeboah's mighty tackle, a challenge many a forward would have shirked. The ball fell for Whelan who crossed for Deane to knock home.

Thus the day ended with a taste of anticlimax. There is no doubt that Juninho is a terrific player, but will he be a terrific asset for the FA Carling Premiership and for Middlesbrough? Not proven, m'lud.

His team must learn him: learn the way he thinks, adjust — if they can — to the speed of his mind. Juninho represents not an achievement but a colossal challenge. Can Middlesbrough — of all places, of all teams — really rise to it?

Cantona provided for Manchester United — as he did for Leeds before them — a strutting sense of self-esteem. His role as talisman was crucial to three successive championship victories. His colleagues talk about his influence on every aspect of the sporting week. On the training field, his very presence fills them with an atavistic sense of self-worth.

Manchester United were waiting for such a catalyst, waiting, it might be said, for a quarter of a century. But Middlesbrough? We shall see. They have Bryan Robson as manager, not a man prone to thinking small scale, and now they have Juninho. Now what?

Juninho's next job is to catch a plane today to go to Argentina, where he plays for Brazil, and will return a couple of days later. There is no Premiership programme next weekend, so he will probably play just 45 minutes of a friendly against Sampdoria.

And onward. Brazil are likely to want him for the Olympic Games football tournament: the qualifiers will take place over six weeks in February and March. This potential clash has yet to be resolved.

They think a lot of him in Brazil. In the voting for Brazilian footballer of the year, in the section for midfield players, he polled 70 votes; Dunga, in second place, got 18.

It was an eerie afternoon. One left not quite sure if it had been an absolutely colossal event, or whether this was a tiny wrinkle in the normal pattern of things, a brief aberration from Middlesbrough's traditions of eternal anonymity. And all the time the salsa band played hot and strong.

MIDDLESBROUGH (4-3-2-1): G Walsh — C Liddle, S Vickers, N Pearson, C Morris — C Hignett, R Mustoe (sub: A Moore, 65mn), J Pollock — N Barmby, Juninho (sub: J Moreno, 78) — J Fjortoft.
LEEDS UNITED (4-1-3-2): J Lukic — G Kelly, D Wetherall, R Jobson, N Worthington — J Pemberton — C Palmer, G McAllister, N Whelan — B Deane, A Yeboah.
Referee: K Burge.

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Newcastle	12	31	+20	WWWDW
2	Manchester Utd	12	26	+11	DWWWD
3	Arsenal	12	24	+10	LWWLW
4	Liverpool	12	23	+15	DDWWL
5	Aston Villa	12	23	+8	WLLWW
6	Middlesbrough	12	22	+5	WWWLD
7	Notts Forest	11	21	+7	DWWWD
8	Leeds	12	21	+6	WLDWD
9	Tottenham	12	19	+3	WLDDW
10	Chelsea	12	16	-3	WWLLD
11	Blackburn	12	13	0	LWDWL
12	West Ham	12	13	-5	WWDWL
13	Everton	12	12	-3	LDDLW
14	Sheffield Wed	12	12	-4	LLWLD
15	Southampton	12	12	-7	LLLWW
16	QPR	12	10	-9	WLLDL
17	Wimbledon	11	10	-10	LLLLL
18	Bolton	12	8	-11	LDLWL
19	Coventry	12	7	-14	LDLLL
20	Manchester City	12	5	-17	LLDLW

Weekly change: Up — Stayed the same — Down

Milosevic starting to show return on investment

West Ham United 1
Aston Villa 4

By Russell Kempson

SAVO MILOSEVIC, a Serb, is 22, six foot tall and on the lean side of bulky. He has won six caps for Yugoslavia, scoring three times, and amassed 79 goals in three seasons for Partizan Belgrade before joining Aston Villa for £3.5 million. He is one of the lesser known and less illustrious imports to flood the FA Carling Premiership market during the summer.

At times this season, Brian Little, the Villa manager, must have grimaced discretely as Milosevic fumbled his way amid uncompromising defences. At times on Saturday, Little must have wondered why he invested so generously in a striker whose dependence on his left foot is total; his right leg is for show.

Yet the learning process, cultural and professional, is progressing. His command of English has moved on from negligible to passable and his first-time touches are now more often precise than poor. Two goals at Upton Park, each one clinically dispatched, took his Villa tally to five in 13 starts.

"He did some really good things and he did some really sloppy things, but the game is so different for him over here," Little said. "It's taking time for him to adjust but he's doing just fine. There is already the basis of a good partnership with Dwight Yorke."

For such an imposing figure, Milosevic is strangely unimpressive in aerial combat. If the ball is kept on the ground, though, and he is given a chance, left-foot forward, to run at retreating opponents, the lumbering giant's effect can be transformed into imminent danger. With Yorke, a Tobagan, in such productive form this season, the burgeoning combination can unlock the most secure of safes.

For half an hour, West Ham United and Villa traded punches: West Ham with an unbeaten five-match sequence in the Premiership, Villa in the belief that Newcastle United, Manchester United, Arsenal and Liverpool are catchable. Yet, for all the earnest endeavour, it was much ado about nothing.

Cue Townsend's premature departure with a recurring foot injury, and Johnson's introduction from the bench, and the pendulum swung decisively, an intricate move ending with Milosevic tucking in Johnson's cross. "It was not the sort of substitution I would have made at that stage but Andy's misfortune gave us the key to win the game," Little admitted.

With Yorke first striking a post, Villa eased away after the interval. Johnson and Yorke increased the advantage to 3-0, with expertly executed goals, before West Ham rallied. Hughes and Boogers were denied by the woodwork and then Dicks bludgeoned a penalty past Bosnich after Ehiogu had handled.

Villa scorned various opportunities with a wild mix of shabby and selfish finishing, until Milosevic prodded in a fourth in the final minute. He may not deserve the same notices as Gullit, Juninho or Bergkamp but, gradually, he is emerging.

WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): L Miklosko — S Potts, A Martin, M Rieper, J Dicks — R Slater (sub: J Harkes 59min), I Bishop, D Hutchison (sub: M Boogers 59), M Hughes — I Dowie, A Cottee.
ASTON VILLA (3-5-2): M Bosnich — U Ehiogu, P McGrath, G Southgate — G Charles, I Taylor, M Draper, A Townsend (sub: T Johnson 32), A Wright — S Milosevic, D Yorke.
Referee: P Jones.

Hoddle has to be flexible

Chelsea 0
Sheffield Wednesday 0

By Alyson Rudd

THERE is a minty clarity to an uncluttered scoreline. Goals can disguise a lack of quality, as British clubs' limp performances in European competition have shown. It is all pace, passion and net-busting in the FA Carling Premiership and brick walls and frustration outside it.

English clubs need to calm down a bit and enjoy the cerebral, probing delights of a 0-0 draw. It is not what the supporters want, of course, and if Stamford Bridge serves up many more games like the one on Saturday, Chelsea will need to restore Marco van Basten to fitness and promise to reunite him with Gullit for ticket sales to remain buoyant.

Every club has its cult hero and the impact one signing can have is almost unhealthy, another indicator that Premiership clubs prefer a quick fix and a high profile rather than dirtying their hands with grassroots football. But Glenn Hoddle brought Gullit to London with pure motives. Here was a player of superior technical ability and impressive European experience who could help coax the best out of a squad often uneasy with Hoddle's system.

However, the former Sampdoria and AC Milan star is more than a role model; Hoddle appears to be building the team around him even though Gullit, at 33, is not a long-term proposition.

Against Sheffield Wednesday, Hoddle was forced, through injury, to abandon the sweeper system and play Gullit in midfield. This did not suit Hoddle or Gullit but it suited Chelsea's back line, who have often seemed confused by Gullit's whereabouts and lose their concentration.

Hoddle made it clear that Gullit will return to his deep role as soon as possible. However, as Waddle showed in this contest, a player with vision and astute passing ability can still find time to dictate the flow of the game from midfield. Perhaps Hoddle could be more flexible and allow his team to dictate to Gullit a little, even if that means dispensing with Spackman.

In the context of the Premiership, though, the niceties of formations pales into insignificance when a side lacks firepower. Both sides created goalscoring opportunities, but their forwards were slow to appreciate the fact. All four forwards in the starting line-up — Hughes, Stein, Hirst and Bright — were shadows of their former selves. Last week in Europe aside, finishing ability is one thing that English clubs can boast about. Chelsea and Wednesday ought to be concerned.

CHELSEA (4-1-3-2): D Kharine — E Newton, E Johnsen, D Lee, G Hall — N Spackman — C Burley, R Gullit (sub: P Furlong, 58mn), D Wise — M Stein, M Hughes.
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (5-3-2): K Pressman — L Briscoe, P Atherton, K Ingesson, D Walker, I Nolan — M Pembridge (sub: M Williams, 70), C Waddle, M Degryse — M Bright, D Hirst.
Referee: P Danson.

Venison toils to good effect

Southampton 2
Queens Park Rangers .. 0

By Mel Webb

BARRY VENISON looks like a footballer caught in a 25-year time warp. His blond locks flow and sit, unfashionably in these days of the squaddie haircut so prevalent among the citizens of planet football, on his shoulders and beyond. He cuts, superficially at least, a dashing figure. His virtues are rather more prosaic, and he is no lesser a player for that.

On Saturday, Venison played his third match for Southampton after escaping from a brief and unhappy spell with Galatasaray.

Turkish football is a strange hybrid, a game in which glittering individual skills abound and good, old-fashioned teamwork are almost dirty words. To those who know and admire him, Venison was never going to be cut out for such fripperies. He is, above all, a believer in the work ethic, the foot soldier, if a rather superior one, rather than the quixotic general.

His honest toil and intelligent awareness of the essentials are appreciated, not least by his manager, Dave Merrington. During an interlude in this FA Carling Premiership match, Merrington wanted to change things round a touch. It was to Venison that he called, and what he sought duly happened.

Le Tissier was back to something resembling his best here, scoring his first Premiership goal since the first day of the season with an outrageously brilliant free kick. Yet it was to Venison that Southampton looked more than any other individual.

From the centre of midfield his calm assurance, his willingness to labour for the common good and his patience were the most telling factors in Southampton's third victory of a thus far undistinguished League season. His incisive pass also made their first goal, scored by Dodd, the right back, after 90 seconds.

As Venison stoked, so Le Tissier produced the fire. He saw the opening when he caught Sommer, the Queens Park Rangers goalkeeper, off his line with a sublime lob from the halfway line in the first half. The ball cleared the bar by millimetres.

Rangers had Bardsley sent off for a clumsy challenge on Heaney with 13 minutes left. Up stepped Le Tissier and, from the narrowest of angles, he curled in the ball with extravagant skill for the second and decisive goal.

Yes, Southampton need their maestro. But, if they are to climb away from danger, they need no less the contribution of an industrious, long-haired refugee from Istanbul.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-4-2): D Beasant — J Dodd, K Monkou, R Hall, F Benali — M Le Tissier, B Venison, J Magilton, N Heaney — G Watson (sub: F Bennett, 85min), N Shipperley.
QUEENS PARK RANGERS (1-4-3-2): J Sommer — K Ready (sub: K Gallen, 68) — D Bardsley, D Maddix, S Yates, R Brevett — S Barker, R Wilkins, N Zelic — D Dichio, T Sinclair.
Referee: R Dilkes.

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

ARSENAL (1) 1 MANCHESTER Utd (0) 0
Bergkamp 14 38,317

Arsenal: D Seaman, L Dixon, S Bould, A Adams, N Winterburn, P Merson, M Keown, D Platt, G Helder, I Wright (sub: J Hartson, 86min), O Bergkamp.
Booked: Merson.
Manchester United: P Schmeichel; G Neville, S Bruce, G Pallister, D Irwin (sub: B McClair, 81), N Butt (sub: L Sharpe 64), R Keane, E Cantona, R Giggs, P Scholes (sub: D Beckham 64), A Cole.
Booked: Neville, Bruce, Beckham.
Referee: P Durkin

CHELSEA (0) 0 SHEFFIELD WED (0) 0
23,216

Chelsea: D Kharine, E Newton, E Johnsen, D Lee, G Hall, N Spackman, C Burley, R Gullit (sub: P Furlong, 58min), D Wise, M Stein, M Hughes.
Booked: Gullit.
Sheffield Wednesday: K Pressman, L Briscoe, P Atherton, K Ingesson, D Walker, J Nolan, M Pembridge (sub: M Williams, 70), C Waddle, M Degryse, M Bright, D Hirst.
Referee: P Danson

COVENTRY (1) 2 TOTTENHAM (2) 3
Dublin 7 Fox 20
Williams 48 Sheringham 25
17,545 Howells 46

Coventry City: J Filan, B Borrows (sub: A Pickering, 74min), D Rennie, G Strodl, M Hall, P Telfer, K Richardson, P Williams, J Salako, D Dublin. N Lampley (sub: Isaias, 74).
Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker, D Austin, S Campbell, G Mabbutt, C Wilson, R Fox, D Howells, J Dozzell, R Rosenthal (sub: C Calderwood, 70), C Armstrong, T Sheringham.
Booked: Walker, Austin
Referee: J Winter.

MANCHESTER C (1) 1 BOLTON WDRS (0) 0
Summerbee 11 28,397

Manchester City: E Immel, J Foster (sub: G Creaney, 88min), K Symons, K Curle, R Edghill, N Summerbee, G Fitzroit (sub: M Brown, 70), S Lomas, G Kinkladze, N Quinn, U Rosler
Booked: Quinn.

Boton Wanderers: K Branagan, S McAnespie, C Fairclough, G Bergsson, J Phillips (sub: S Green, 83), D Lee, S Curtis (sub: F de Freitas, 60), A Stubbs, A Thompson, J McGinlay, M Pastelsinen (sub: M Patterson, 41).
Booked: Bergsson, Fairclough, Patterson.
Referee: R Hart

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 1 LEEDS (1) 1
Fjortoft 11 Deane 45
29,467

Middlesbrough: G Walsh, C Liddle, S Vickers, N Pearson, C Morris, C Hignett, R Mustoe (sub: A Moore, 65min), J Pollock, N Barmby, Juninho (sub: J Moreno, 78), J Fjortoft.
Booked: Pearson, Pollock, Juninho
Leeds United: J Lukic, G Kelly, D Wetherall, R Jobson, N Worthington, J Pemberton, C Palmer, G McAllister, N Whelan, B Deane, A Yeboah.
Booked: Kelly, Worthington, Pemberton, Palmer.
Referee: K Burge.

NEWCASTLE (1) 2 LIVERPOOL (1) 1
Ferdinand 2 Rush 10
Watson 89 36,547

Newcastle United: S Hislop, W Barton, D Peacock, S Howey, J Beresford, K Gillespie (sub: P Albert, 65min), R Lee, S Watson, D Ginola, P Beardsley, L Ferdinand.
Liverpool: D James, M Wright, J Scales, P Babb, R Jones, J Redknapp, J Barnes, S Harkness, S McManaman, I Rush (sub: S Collymore, 75min), R Fowler
Referee: M Reed.

SOUTHAMPTON (1) 2 QPR (0) 0
Dodd 2 15,137
Le Tissier 77

Southampton: D Beasant, J Dodd, K Monkou, R Hall, F Benali, M Le Tissier, B Venison, J Magilton, N Heaney, G Watson (sub: F Bennett 85mins), N Shipperley
Booked: Benali, Heaney.
Queens Park Rangers: J Sommer, K Ready (sub: K Gallen, 68), D Bardsley, D Maddix, S Yates, A Brevett, S Barker, R Wilkins, N Zelitic, D Dichio, T Sinclair.
Booked: Dichio
Sent off: Bardsley (76).
Referee: L Dilkes.

WEST HAM (0) 1 ASTON VILLA (1) 4
Dicks 85 (pen) Milosevic 34, 89
23,637 Johnson 49 Yorke 55

West Ham United: L Miklosko, S Potts, A Martin, M Rieper, J Dicks, R Slater (sub: J Harkes, 59min), I Bishop, D Hutchison (sub: M Rodgers, 59), M Hughes, I Dowie, A Cottee.
Booked: Hughes.
Aston Villa: M Bosnich, U Ehiogu, P McGrath, G Southgate, G Charles, I Taylor, M Draper, A Townsend (sub: T Johnson, 32), A Wright, S Milosevic, D Yorke.
Booked: Townsend.
Referee: P Jones.

Yesterday

EVERTON (1) 1 BLACKBURN (0) 0
Stuart 23 30,097

Everton: N Southall, M Jackson, C Short, D Watson, G Ablett, A Kanchelskis, G Stuart (sub: D Amokachi, 72mn), J Ebbrell, J Parkinson, A Limpar. P Rideout.
Booked: Watson.
Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, J Kenna, T Sherwood, C Hendry, S Ripley, A Shearer, M Newell (sub: C Sutton, 83), H Berg, L Bohinen, D Batty, I Pearce (sub: G Le Saux, 63).
Booked: Sherwood, Berg
Referee: A Wilde.

TODAY

NOTTM FOR v WIMBLEDON

Wimbledon goalkeeper Simon Tracey and midfielder Peter Fear both miss tonight's match through suspension. This compounds an already serious selection problem for manager Joe Kinnear, who has a long injury list and six consecutive league defeats to contend with.

Forest are expected to name an unchanged side from the one which defeated Auxerre in the Uefa Cup.



Ferdinand: early goal

GOALSCORERS

	Lge	Cup	Euro	Total
Ferdinand (Newcastle)	14	3	0	17
Shearer (Blackburn)	10	5	0	15
Fowler (Liverpool)	10	2	0	12
Sheringham (Tottenham)	9	3	0	12
Yeboah (Leeds)	8	0	3	11
Wright (Arsenal)	7	4	0	11
Scholes (Man Utd)	6	2	1	9
Yorke (Aston Villa)	5	3	0	8
Holdsworth (Wimbledon)	4	4	0	8
Dichio (QPR)	6	1	0	7
Bergkamp (Arsenal)	4	3	0	7

BRAZILIANS

WITH ALL eyes fixed this weekend on Middlesbrough for the eventual debut of Juninho, the only Brazilian in the FA Carling Premiership, an interesting question is where in Europe are all the rest playing? An analysis of the leading European leagues is detailed below.

Considering cultural and climatic similarities, the dominance of Portugal in the statistics is not so much of a surprise as Spain's lack of Brazilians. Also, Italy's interest appears to have waned with only five Brazilians on Serie A clubs' books.

Of the 43 other South American players in top European leagues, Argentina has the lion's share with 25, Uruguay has eight. This decline is more than influenced by the influx of African players, but that is another story.

BRAZILIANS PLAYING IN LEADING EUROPEAN LEAGUES

BELGIUM (10): Ricnaldo (Anderlecht), Junior (Aalst), De Souza (Lierse), M Pereira (Mechelen), C R Pereira, Warmerino, Edmilson and Edson (Seraing), Danga (Standard Liège), Amorim (Waregem).
ENGLAND (1): Juninho (Middlesbrough).
FRANCE (6): Wiltord (Bastia), Valdeir (Bordeaux), Marcelo (Lyon), Isaias M S (Metz), Anderson (Monaco), Rai (Paris Saint-Germain).
GERMANY (7): Julio Cesar (Dortmund), Chagas, Hubner and Paulo Sergio (Leverkusen), Manzi (St Pauli), Elber (Stuttgart), Baena (Bremen).
HOLLAND (3): Marco Santos (Ajax), Carvalho (Feyenoord), Ronaldo (PSV Eindhoven).
ITALY (5): Alexandre (Atalanta), Gerson (Bari), D S Roberto Carlos (Internazionale), Cruz (Napoli), Aldair (Roma).
PORTUGAL (27): Ricardo Gomes and Aston (Benfica), Luis (Belenenses), Sergio Duarte, Amar and Nelson Bandeiras (Boavista), Borzato and Evandro (Braga), Joel and Tarciso (Campomaiorense), Dino and Rui (Chaves), Capela (Farrense), Roberto Carlos, Luciano and Nene Santarem (Gil Vicente), Isaias (Leca), Rotsson, Edmilson and Gustavo (Maritimo), Alosso (Porto), Assis (Sporting Lisbon), Luis Carlos and Fernando Ameida (Salgueiros), Baptista (Tirense), Alvarez and Emerson (Vitoria).
SPAIN (9): Fabiano (Compostela), Mauro da Silva and Bebeto (La Corunal, Sinval (Merida), Guilherme (Vallecano), Ivan Rocha (Valladolid), Mazoc (Seville), Mazinho and Viola (Valencia).



Ceh and Temm, of GAK Graz, scramble the ball clear from Meahlich, of Sturm Graz, in the Austrian League. The match finished 1-1.Photograph: Franz Pammer.

EUROPEAN

AUSTRIAN LEAGUE: Rapid Vienna 4 Vorwaers Steyr 3 GAK Graz 1 Sturm Graz 1.

DUTCH LEAGUE: Willem II Tilburg 5 Groningen 2, Fortuna Sittard 1 Twente Enschede 1; NEC Nijmegen 1 Roda JC Kerkrade 4. Leading positions: 1, Ajax, 36 points. 2, PSV Eindhoven, 31; 3, Willem II Tilburg, 23; 4 Heerenveen, 22.

FRENCH LEAGUE: Bastia 1, Metz 0. Sochaux 0 Auxerre 1, Gueugnon 0 Le Havre 1, Guingamp 1 Lyon 0, Lille 0 Martigues 0, Monaco 1 Lens 1, Nantes 1 Montpellier 0, St. Etienne 0 Rennes 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Metz	16	9	5	2	17	9	32
Paris St Germain	15	9	4	2	28	12	31
Lens	16	8	6	2	21	12	30
Auxerre	16	9	1	6	28	19	28
Guingamp	16	7	7	2	14	8	28
Nantes	16	7	6	3	18	14	27
Monaco	16	7	5	4	27	20	26
Bastia	16	7	3	6	23	22	24
Montpellier	16	6	4	6	21	21	22
Rennes	15	6	4	5	17	19	22
Strasbourg	15	5	5	5	21	15	21
Nice	15	5	4	6	15	14	19
Bordeaux	16	5	3	8	17	21	18
Le Havre	16	5	3	8	11	22	18
Lyon	16	3	7	6	14	19	16
St Etienne	16	3	6	7	20	26	15
Lille	16	3	5	8	12	21	14
Martigues	16	4	2	10	11	20	14
Guingamp	16	2	7	7	12	22	13
Cannes	15	3	2	10	17	28	11

GERMAN LEAGUE: Freiburg 1 Uerdingen 1; 1860 Munich 1 Hansa Rostock 1, Eintracht Frankfurt 4 Bayern Munich 1, VfB Stuttgart 1 Werder Bremen 1; Borussia Dortmund 3 Borussia Dusseldorf 0; Kaiserslautern 2 Karlsruhe 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
[illegible]	12	8	3	1	32	16	27
Bayern Munich	12	8	3	1	28	16	27
[illegible]	12	7	3	2	19	16	24
Hansa Rostock	12	4	6	2	25	17	18
[illegible]	12	5	3	4	27	25	17
[illegible]	12	5	3	4	21	21	16
[illegible]	12	4	4	4	15	16	16
[illegible]	12	4	3	5	19	18	15
[illegible]	12	4	3	5	12	13	15
[illegible]	12	3	4	5	15	15	13
[illegible]	12	3	4	5	10	15	13
[illegible]	12	3	4	5	13	19	13
[illegible]	12	3	3	6	15	21	12
Bayer Leverkusen	12	3	3	6	22	17	12
[illegible]	12	3	3	6	12	22	12
[illegible]	12	3	2	7	19	35	11
[illegible]	12	3	4	5	21	21	13
[illegible]	11	3	3	5	16	19	12
[illegible]	12	2	3	7	12	19	9
Freiburg	12	1	4	7	7	17	7

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Bari 1, Atalanta 3; Cremonese 0 Parma 2; Fiorentina 2 Lazio 0; Roma 2 Piacenza 0; Sampdoria 0 Inter Milan 0; Torino 0 Napoli 0; Udinese 1 Juventus 0; Vicenza 1 Piacenza 1. Leading positions: 1, Parma, played 9, 20 points; 2 Fiorentina, 9, 18; 3 Milan, 8, 17; 4, Lazio, 9, 16; 5, Napoli, 9, 16; 6, Udinese, 9, 15.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Madrid 3 Real Sociedad 2.

NON-LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

FA TROPHY

Second qualifying round: Alfreton 2 Dudley 2, Atherstone 1 Accrington Stanley 3, Barrow 0 Winsford 1, Basingstoke 0 Uxbridge 2; Bilston 5 Leicester United 2, Bognor 2 Sittingbourne 2, Braintree 4 Harrow 0, Carshalton 5 Weymouth 1, Chertsey 2 Chesham 2, Clevedon 0 Worcester 4, Crawley 0 Bashley 1, Curzon Ashton 1 Lancaster 1, Eastwood Town 0 Chorley 1, Emley 2 RC Warwick 1, Evesham 0 Aldershot 2; Grantham 1 Farsley Celtic 3, Great Harwood 3 Frickley 2; Hendon 3 Gravesend and Northfleet 0, Leigh 0 Matlock 2, Maidenhead 0 Thame 5, Newport AFC 2 Fleet 1, Nuneaton 3 Knowsley 2, Purfleet 6 Corby 1; Radcliffe 2 Fleetwood 0, Salisbury 2 Sudbury 2, Staines 3 Havant 1; Tamworth 3 Netherfield 1, Tooting and Mitcham 2 Baldock 1, Trowbridge 1 Bishop's Stortford 0, Walton and Hersham 0 Oxford City 0, Wembley 1 Ruislip Manor 1, Yate 1 Haybridge Swifts 2

UNIBOND

Premier division: Bamber Bridge 3 Blyth Spartans 0, Bishop Auckland 1 Witton 2, Gainsborough 1 Leek 0; Guiseley 1 Buxton 0; Hyde 3 Spennymoor 2, Marine 0 Boston 4

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Boston Utd	20	12	2	6	44	25	38
Bamber Bridge	18	10	6	2	37	17	36
Guiseley	17	9	6	2	33	19	33
Witton Alb	19	9	2	8	30	30	29
Emley	17	8	4	5	20	15	28
Gainsborough	17	8	4	5	24	20	28
Barrow	13	8	3	2	33	16	27
Hyde Utd	17	7	3	7	32	19	27
B Auckland	18	7	5	6	22	23	26
Spennymoor	17	6	6	5	24	20	24
Acc Stanley	14	7	2	5	22	21	23
Blyth Spartans	16	6	4	6	27	26	22
Marine	13	6	3	4	17	13	21
Leek Town	16	5	6	5	21	18	21
Chorley	15	5	3	7	18	22	18
Frickley	15	4	4	7	20	28	16
Colwyn Bay	16	3	7	6	14	24	16
Droylsden	16	4	3	9	23	39	15
Winsford Utd	11	3	5	3	8	12	14
Buxton	18	3	5	10	19	37	14
Matlock	16	1	4	11	22	35	7
Knowsley	17	1	3	13	17	48	6

First division: Congleton 1 Bradford Park Avenue 2, Harrogate Town 3 Atherton LR 1, Warrington 4 Lincoln United 2; Worksop 6 Whitley Bay 2.

BEAZER HOMES

Premier division: Hastings 0 Burton 3, Chelmsford 1 Gresley 2; Cheltenham 2 Cambridge City 3, Ilkeston 1 Gloucester 2; Merthyr 2, VS Rugby 3; Rushden and Diamonds 5 Stafford 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Rushden & D	12	10	1	1	32	9	31
Gloucester	15	8	4	3	26	14	28
Worcester	14	8	4	2	24	12	28
Newport AFC	13	8	3	2	25	15	27
Cheltenham	14	8	2	4	28	21	26
Halesowen	12	5	5	2	23	18	20
Burton	13	5	4	4	22	20	19
Merthyr	14	6	1	7	28	29	19
Cambridge	15	6	1	8	24	27	19
Hastings	14	6	4	5	19	22	19
Gresley	14	5	4	5	18	21	19
Baldock	13	5	3	5	25	15	18
Gravesend & N	12	5	2	5	22	20	17
Sudbury	12	4	5	3	22	20	17
Crawley	13	4	5	4	17	17	17
Chelmsford	14	4	4	6	15	21	16
Dorchester	12	4	2	6	22	17	14
Ilkeston	13	4	2	7	19	35	14
Atherstone	12	3	4	5	21	21	13
Salisbury	11	3	3	5	16	19	12
VS Rugby	15	2	3	10	12	38	9
Stafford	15	0	2	13	17	48	2

Midland division: Kings Lynn 1 Buckingham Town 4, Moor Green 1 Paget 1, Redditch 0 Rothwell 0, Sutton Coldfield 3 Bridgnorth 0; Southern division: Ashford 2 Weston-super-Mare 2, Cinderford 7 Poole 1, Fisher 93 0 Margate 2, Newport IOW 0 Forest Green 1; Waterlooville 3 Witney 2

ICIS

Premier division: Enfield 5 Bromley 0, Grays 0 St Albans 3 Hitchin 1 Boreham Wood 2, Sutton United 1 Dulwich 1 Yeading 2 Molesey 2, Yeovil 3 Worthing 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Enfield	16	11	3	2	35	9	36
Dulwich	12	8	3	1	36	10	27
Boreham Wood	12	8	3	1	20	9	27
Carshalton	12	8	2	2	21	15	26
St Albans	13	7	4	2	24	11	25
Kingstonian	15	6	7	2	19	11	25
Hayes	12	6	5	1	17	7	23
Aylesbury	13	6	4	3	26	16	22
Yeovil	13	6	3	4	26	16	21
Sutton Utd	15	4	7	4	29	25	19
Harrow B	11	5	2	4	19	16	17
Yeading	15	3	7	5	16	20	16
Chertsey	12	4	2	6	15	22	14
B Stortford	11	3	4	4	13	14	13
Molesey	13	3	3	7	14	26	12
Hitchin	12	3	4	6	10	20	10
Hendon	10	2	3	5	10	19	9
Worthing	12	1	4	7	15	26	7
Grays	13	1	4	8	8	22	7
Walton & H	11	1	2	8	7	23	5
Bromley	12	1	2	9	9	28	5
Purfleet	9	0	4	5	8	18	4

First division: Barking 2 Marlow 0; Wokingham 1 Berkhamsted 2 Second division: Bedford Town 1 Hampton 1, Bracknell 2 Saffron Walden 1, Cheshunt 0 Spiller Row 2, Dorking 0 Croydon 3, Egham 3 Edgware 2; Hemel Hempstead 2 Witham 3, Metropolitan Police 0 Wivenhoe 0, Tilbury 0 Canvey Island 5, Ware 0 Hungerford 1 Third division: Aveley 3 Hereford 2; Epsom and Ewell 1 Horsham 2; Hertford 3 Cove 1, Hornchurch 1 Leighton 2, Kingsbury 2 Camberley 2; Northwood 0 Tring 2; Southall 1 Lewes 1, Wealdstone 3 East Thurrock 0; Windsor and Eton 0 Clapton 1, Wingate and Finchley 3 Flackwell Heath 2

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash 5 Cobham 0; Horley 1 Sandhurst 2; Peppard 3 Feltham 2, Viking Sports 2 Raynes Park Vale 1, Walton Casuals 1 Eton Wick 2.

ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Ansells 2 Southam 0; Chelmsley 0 Highgate 3, Handrahan Timbers 2 Knowle 1, Kings Heath 3 Upton 2; Oldbury Royals 1 Northfield 1; Shirley 0 Bloxwich 4, Studley BKL 2 Wellesbourne 2

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Burnham Ramblers 1 Basildon 0, Eton Manor 1 Sawbridgeworth 4, Hullbridge Sports 0 Ford United 1, Maldon 2 Bowers 0; Romford 2 Great Wakering 0; Southend M 3 Concord 4; Stansted 1 Brentwood 0.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Beckwell 0 Brislington 1, Bideford 3 Odd Down 0; Calne 1 Barnstaple 0, Crediton 0 Mangotsfield 6, Taunton 3 Elmore 2, Tiverton 2 Paulton 2, Torrington 1 Westbury 1.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Banbury 4 Didcot 1, Bicester 1 North Leigh 3; Carterton 2 Brackley 2, Kintbury 1 Cirencester 1; Lambourn Sports 6 Abingdon United 2, Swindon Supermarine 1 Burnham 2.

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Boston 1 Potton 0, Bourne 0 Desborough 2, Cogenhoe 3 Marlees Blackstone 0; Kempston 1 Spalding 3, Long Buckby 2 Holbeach 2, Northampton Spencer 2 Wellingborough 3, Raunds 1 Wootton 1, Stamford 7 Newport Pagnell 2, S and L Corby 1 Stotfold 8

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Ammtage 2 Kynpersley 0, Bolehall Swifts 2 Willenhall 2, Chasetown 3 Shepshed Dynamo 3, Hinckley Athletic 5 Rocester 2, Oldbury 2 Blakenall 1 Sandwell 0 Rushall Olympic 1, Shifnal 2 Boldmere Street Michaels 3, Stapenhill 2 West Midlands Police 0 Stratford 0 Halesowen Harriers 0

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Felixstowe 5 Great Yarmouth 1, Hadleigh 1 Fakenham 0, Halstead 2 Diss 1, Harwich and Parkeston 6 Comard 1, Haverhill 1 Lowestoft 1; March 1 Woodbridge 2, Newmarket 2 Clacton 2; Soham 0 Tiptree 0, Sudbury 1 Stowmarket 2, Wisbech 2 Wroxham 1

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: BAT 3 Cowes Sports 0; Bemerton Heath Harl 4 East Cowes 0; Christchurch 0 Ryde Sports 1, Petersfield 1 Downton 3, Thatcham 1 Gosport 0; Whitchurch 2 Totton 2.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: League Cup: Second round: First leg: Barkingside 0 Hillingdon 0. Intermediate Cup: Second round: Catford Wanderers 0 Walthamstow Trojans 3, Chingford 3 Faweh 4, AFC Bleckheath 5 AC Milla 1. League Cup: Second round, second leg: Amersham 3 St Margaretsbury 1, Brook House 0 Wilesden Hawk 1, Waltham Abbey 0 Corinthian Casuals 1, Woodford 1 Tottenham Omada 1, Wootwich 0 Harwell 0

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Old Chigwellians 1 Old Aldenhamians 1, Old Cholmeleians 2 Old Carthusians, 3; Old Malvernians 2 Old Foresters 7, Old Reptonians 1 Lancing Old Boys 3 First division: Old Ardinians 0 Old Haberdashers 2; Old Bradfieldians 2 Old Wilteans 6

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Blackpool Rovers 1 Skelmersdale 2; Bootle 1 Kidsgrove 1, Burscough 2 Maine Road 0; Darwen 4 Mossley 4, Eastwood Hanley 2 Salford 3, Radcn 1 Clitheroe 0, Glossop North End 4 Newcastle Town 2; Holker Old Boys 0 Prescot 2; Nantwich 3 Rossendale 0, St Helens 1 Trafford 1

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper Town 2 Goole 3, Brigg 5 Stocksbridge PS 0, Denaby 1 Sheffield 0; Hallam 1 Ashfield 2, Hatfield Main 0 Arnold 0, Hucknall 1 Armthorpe Welfare 2, North Ferriby 2 Maltby MW 0, Ossett Town 3 Ossett Albion 2, Pickering 4 Glasshoughton Welfare 3; Thackley 0 Liversedge 1.

NUCLEAR ELECTRIC KENT LEAGUE: First division: Bearsted 3 Rushall 0; Bromley Green 1 Bishopsbourne 5, Broomfield 3 University Of Kent 2; Empire 1 Swanscombe 1; Kennington 2 Tenterden 1, Maidstone Invicta 2 Scott Sports and Society 2, New Romney 2 Snowdown 2, Platt 3 Wellcome (Saturday) 0, Rye 3 Lydd 1, Sutton 2 Phoenix Sports 2; Woodnesborough 1 Bond Sports 0.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Danes 1 Latymer 5; Tenisonians 2 Meadonians 0; Hamptonians 0 Clapham 1, Ignatians 5 Isleworthians 0 First division: Vaughanians 1 Tenisonians 0; Salvatorians 0 Chertsey Old Salesians 4, Maronians 1 Tiffinians 2; Shene Old Grammarians 1 Kingsbunians 2 Second division: Wokingians 1 Enfield Old Grammarians 0, Tollingtonians 4 Southallians 1; Mill Hill County OB 1 Westhamians 3. Senior third division: John Fisher 5 Grocers 3 Senior cup: Cardinal Manning 2 Camdenians 3, Aloysians 2 Dorkinians 4

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury 2 Greenwich 1, Chatham 4 Slade Green 2; Corinthian 1 Folkestone Invicta 4, Cray 0 Whitstable 4; Deal 2 Crockenhill 2; Herne Bay 0 Furness 2, Hythe 0 Dartford 0, Ramsgate 0 Tunbridge Wells 4, Sheppey 4 Beckenham 3, Thamesmead 4 Faversham 0

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Charlton Athletic 1 Ipswich Town 1; Gillingham 2 Fulham 0 Leyton Orient 3 Cambridge United 2, Millwall 0 Tottenham Hotspur 1, Norwich City 0 Arsenal 1; Portsmouth 1 Watford 3, Queens Park Rangers 3 West Ham United 0, Southend United 0 Chelsea 2. Second division: Bristol Rovers 0 Wimbledon 3, Colchester United 0 Oxford United 2, Crystal Palace 3 Bristol City 0, Luton Town 1 Barnet 2; Southampton 1 Brighton and Hove Albion 0, Swindon Town 1 AFC Bournemouth 1, Tottenham Hotspur 2 Brentford 1; Wycombe Wanderers 2 Reading 1

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: West Wickham 4 Old Esthamians 0, Winchmore Hill 1 Nat West Bank 3, Kew Association 1 Norsemen 2, South Bank Poly 0 Civil Service 7, Crouch End Vampires 3 Old Actonians 3; Polytechnic 1 Alexandra Park 2, Old Latymerians 2 Lensbury 2; Old Parmiterians 3 Midland Bank 2, Barclays Bank 6 Old Bromleians 1, Ibys 1 Regate Priory 1, Merton 2 Brentham 3, Broomfield 3 Civaco 3, Bank of England 7 Southgate Olympic 1

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: First division: Old Grammarians 2 Hale End 2, Parkfield 4 Nottsborough 4, Southgate County 3 St Marys College 0. Second division: Ealing Association 0 City of London 1, Honourable Artillery Company 0 Corinthian Casuals 2, Old Beaconians 1 Old Woodhouseans 7, UCL Academicals 0 Wandsworth 7

HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Brora 3 Fort William 1, Buckie Thistle 1 Cove 5 Fraserburgh 1 Forres Mechanics 1, Huntly 4 Clachnacuddin 2, Keith 0 Elgin 2; Lossiemouth 5 Deveronvale 0, Nairn County 3 Rothes 2; Wick Academy 1 Peterhead 1.

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National League: Arsenal 2 Millwall Lionesses 0 Croydon 2 Liverpool F C Ladies 0; Everton 3 Villa Aztecs 1, Ilkeston 0 Wembley 3. Northern division: RTM Newcastle 2 Kidderminster Harr 2; Langford 2 Tranmere 3, Notts County 1 Huddersfield 4, Sheff Wed 2 Barnsley 0, St Helens 2 Southern division: Berkhamstead 2 Brighton and Hove 2, Ipswich 1 Southampton Saints 3, Leyton Orient 2 Brentford 6; Three Bridges 3 Town and County 0, Wimbledon 4 Oxford 1.

NATIONAL

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Caernarfon 0 Ebbw Vale 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Barry Town	12	8	2	2	29	9	26
Conwy	12	7	4	1	33	18	25
Connah's Quay	11	6	4	1	30	16	22
Newtown	11	7	1	3	16	8	22
Bangor City	13	6	4	3	22	16	22
Ebbw Vale	14	6	4	4	18	17	22
Flint Town	13	6	3	4	21	14	21
Holywell	13	6	2	5	27	26	20
Inter Cardiff	13	5	4	4	22	18	19
Caernarfon	15	4	7	4	25	25	19
Cwmbran	13	4	6	3	22	14	18
Caersws	13	6	0	7	30	40	18
Llansantffraid	14	4	4	6	24	24	16
Aber Lido	11	4	2	5	12	19	14
Ton Pentre	12	3	4	5	16	20	13
Carnaes Bay	12	3	4	5	21	27	13
Aberystwyth	12	3	3	6	21	24	12
Rhyl	12	3	3	6	11	22	12
Porthmadog	12	3	1	8	19	28	10
Briton Ferry	11	3	1	7	15	32	10
Llanelli	13	2	1	10	16	32	7

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Bangor 2 Ards 1, Crusaders 1 Cliftonville 0, Glenavon 0 Portadown 1, Linfield 0 Glentoran 4 First division: Ballymena 0 Larne 0, Carrick 0 Coleraine 3, Distillery 2 Newry 1, Omagh 1 Ballyclare 3.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Derry 5 Athlone 3; UCD 0 Cork 1.

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	HOME						AWAY						Goal	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	dif
1 Newcastle	12	6	0	0	17	3	4	1	1	12	6	31	+20
2 Man Utd	12	5	1	0	13	4	3	1	2	10	8	25	+11
3 Arsenal	12	4	2	0	10	4	3	1	2	6	2	24	+10
4 Liverpool	12	5	1	0	16	2	2	1	3	9	8	23	+15
5 Aston Villa	12	4	1	1	8	3	3	1	2	9	6	23	+8
6 Middlesbro	12	4	2	0	8	2	2	2	2	4	5	22	+5
7 Nottm For	11	3	2	0	10	5	2	4	0	9	7	21	+5
8 Leeds	12	4	0	2	9

صكذا من الاصل

Bitter transatlantic rivals lined up for lucrative clash in the spring

Lewis clinches meeting with Bowe

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT
IN LAS VEGAS

LENNOX LEWIS will get a chance to prove himself the best heavyweight in the world early next year, whether or not he meets Frank Bruno. Lewis's team is still chasing Bruno and will be taking the World Boxing Council to court in the United States to stop Bruno meeting Mike Tyson first. But Lewis will be challenging Riddick Bowe for the title of the best heavyweight in March or April following his arch-rival's victory in the eighth round over Evander Holyfield here on Saturday.

Seth Abraham, the head of Time-Warner Sport, said after the bout: "Yes, Bowe and Lewis will fight in March or April. We started talking yesterday and will be talking tomorrow. It just remains to discuss terms."

Lewis said: "I've got no fear of Bowe. I've got one up on him. I'm that kind of warrior when it comes to Bowe. I would just come out punching and keep punching. Hopefully he'll look to fighting me because there are no more belts to throw in the garbage.

"The whole world's been waiting for a Lewis-Bowe fight. And I've been waiting for that since the beginning. It's going to be a fight to capture the world's attention. It's the next biggest fight, the big-money fight."

The bout between Bowe and Holyfield lived up to its expectations. It was every bit as thrilling and dramatic as the last two encounters, a punch for punch affair from the first bell. Bowe was on the floor and in serious trouble in the sixth, then he got up to send Holyfield to the canvas in the eighth. Holyfield was in front on all three judges cards at the end. For the 33-year-old to battle it out every inch of the way with a bigger man five years younger for eight rounds and still be ahead on points leaves one in no doubt about the fight's ferocity.

Anyone who saw this bout between the two best heavyweights in the world knows that Bowe is the real world champion. The other three belts, the WBC held by Bruno, the WBA in the possession of Bruce Seldon, who was knocked out in one round by Bowe, and the IBF, yet to be contested by Axel Schulz and Frans Botha, have no worth any more.

Abraham eloquently made the point before the Bowe-Holyfield bout, drawing two squares and putting Bowe, Holyfield, Lewis and Tyson in one and Bruno, Seldon, Schulz and Botha in the other and asking "which square do you think is the more important one? The non-champions or the champions?" For Tyson to prove he is the best, there is no point in his beating the second-raters.

If only the friends of boxing, the American commissions and boxing boards abroad can build on this chance to keep the title unified, and tell the world bodies their services are no longer required, they would take much of the corruption and manipulation out of boxing that makes the sport a questionable one.

This $30 million event was more than ably managed by the Nevada State Athletic Commission and was fought out before a crowd of 12,000 that was on its feet from the first bell.

Although in superb condition, Holyfield took too much out of himself in the first four rounds and began to tire, but still managed to push Bowe all the way for the next four rounds. Bowe had the better of the exchanges inside. Once, in the fifth, he cut loose with a terrifying cluster of five uppercuts in a row with both hands.

Just as it seemed, in the sixth round, that Holyfield had little left to give, he unleashed a left hook and sent Bowe staggering to the floor. Bowe rolled over disorientated, but the big man got to his feet. Nobody was more relieved than Lewis.

The referee, Joe Cortez, waved them together, Bowe took another couple of blows and retreated in confusion to a corner, where he made his stand, extending his left hand to keep out Holyfield, who measured him with his left but was unable to land a clean blow before the bell.

The next round was another good one for Holyfield as Bowe looked sorry for himself. Even though he got his boxing together, his punches were ineffectual. After an explosive flurry by both men, Holyfield, thinking he had Bowe in trouble, lunged forward but ran into a straight right. Bowe stepped aside and Holyfield pitched forward on to his face. His heart would not allow him to be counted out. He rose but could not lift his hands. His right eye was closed. He stood like an exhausted bull in a bullring awaiting the last thrust.

Bowe leapt in and sent Holyfield across the ring. He piled in and Holyfield turned his face away in pain. Cortez jumped in and called a halt. It will be surprising if Holyfield carries on boxing. He cannot come back into the tournament, which must now go on to its logical conclusion — a fight with Tyson.



Joe Cortez, the referee, moves in to stop the bout as Holyfield, left, is sent reeling by Bowe's final blow. Photograph: Gary Hershorn

Smith finds no way back from first-leg deficit

Sally Jones watches James Male maintain his domination of rackets

James Male retained his Lacoste world rackets championship title by taking a winning 2-1 lead in the second leg of his defence against Neil Smith, the New York professional, at Queen's Club on Saturday. The British player had recorded a commanding 4-1 victory in the first leg in Chicago a week earlier.

Smith, 32, began majestically, hitting a string of forehand winners and serving accurately to lead 14-3. Male then fought back to 8-14 before his opponent clinched the game at 15-8.

Smith led again, 4-0 in the second game, before the super-fit Male increased the pace, retrieving superbly from the back of the court and straightening the ball effectively down the walls. Smith persevered with this game plan but the increasingly confident Male was ruthlessly hitting winners off anything short of a length.

After a series of long, thrilling rallies which delighted the packed gallery, Male at 1-1 and needing just one more game for outright victory, raised the pace still further, pulling off spectacular double-fisted volleys on both flanks.

Despite spirited resistance from Smith, who came within one game of taking the world title in 1993, Male took the final game 15-7 in spectacular style.

The challenge lived up to expectations after being twice postponed, first because Smith almost lost his sight in one eye in a training accident — he made a full recovery — and then because Male tore a cartilage in his right knee. Smith's injury has spurred the game's governing body to recommend plastic eyeguards for all players.

For Male, a personable Old Radleian, the victory provided a triumphant culmination to an extraordinary three years in which he gave up his job as a broker with Warburg Securities and, in between short spells as a despatch rider, had a series of trials as a batter with the Atlanta Braves baseball team.

"They invited me back for final trials this season," Male explained. "But I decided that, at 31, I was just too old and inexperienced. So I'm now starting to move into sports management and sponsorship."

An England junior lawn tennis international and a county standard squash and



Male: all-rounder

hockey player, Male, who is also a former British amateur real tennis champion, has not only an extraordinarily varied sporting CV but also the knack of peaking for the big events, revelling in their gladiatorial atmosphere.

"I adored the excitement of the world championship, even though there was a lot of tension and needle because we both wanted it so much," he said.

"The British crowd is usually a bit reserved but they let rip at Queen's and that really helped me to raise my game."



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Redgrave steers favourites to victory

BY MIKE ROSEWELL, ROWING CORRESPONDENT

THE world and Olympic rowing champions, Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent, assisted by Rob Thatcher and James Cracknell, Britain's world championship double scull in Finland in August, duly retained the Fullers Fours Head title for Leander in a quad scull on Saturday.

The favourites, starting first in the 462-crew flotilla and steered by Redgrave, had a clear run, moving steadily away from lesser-pedigree early starters to finish, rating 36, in splendid isolation.

Potential threats to their supremacy lurked further down in the pack, where virtually the whole of the national squad was to be found in quads among the new entries, notably the world coxless four silver-medal crew of the Searle brothers, Rupert Obholzer and Tim Foster.

Stroked by Foster and starting 340th on a slacker tide, the Molesey/London University crew successfully weaved past numerous slower boats to finish just seven seconds slower than the winners and one second ahead of Leander's second crew of established scullers, including Guy Pooley and Cal MacLennan from the 1994 winning boat.

Sean Bowden, coach of the Olympic-qualified British eight, is clearly fostering competition among his personnel. Entered in two quads, they finished within three seconds of each other in fourth and fifth places as Leander VI and Nautilus.

The expected challenge of a composite crew stroked by the triple world champion, Peter Haining, failed to materialise. Rorie Henderson, the steersman, was in trouble early on with a twig caught in the rudder, his problems culminating when the crew hit the Black Buoy barge at Putney, disintegrating the rigger of the Irish international, Niall O'Toole, the bowman.

Problems for the women's quad favourites, the Thames/Upper Thames crew of the Batten sisters, Ali Gill and Canadian Kirsten Barnes, began before the start when they hit driftwood and holed their boat. After quick taping up, they started late, and then hit two slower crews. They still won by 24 seconds, ahead of many men's crews, in 46th place overall.

Eight other British women internationals were found in the Thames and Marlow coxless fours. The Thames contingent, four members of the British eight, did not please their international coach, Bill Mason. They failed to follow his pre-race orders to keep out of trouble and collided with an Imperial College crew off the start. Marlow, with three of the British eight involved, took the trophy by one second.

The first unveiling of this year's Boat Race squads, with many British and overseas international oarsmen on show, gave early notice of excitement to come in the Spring. Honours ended roughly even, although the best student performance of the day came from Imperial College, with two crews among the top 20 finishers.



Redgrave: started first

Results, page 32



Davies, centre, finds himself the focus of attention as he prepares for his return to rugby union at Cardiff Arms Park yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Davies embarks on difficult homecoming

Simon Wilde samples the tension as a favourite son returns to rugby union

While some 7,000 people are gathering on the terraces above, allowing over-indulgent lunches to settle and stamping the cold from their feet, down below in the bowels of Arms Park, the Cardiff dressing-room is a scene of increasingly frenzied activity.

Jonathan Davies, on his much-vaunted return to Wales and the man famed for keeping his feet on the ground, is looking sick with nervous tension.

Everyone is moving to and fro, climbing on and off the physio's table, tying and untying shoelaces, pulling on and taking off shirts. The stench of embrocation is overpowering, clogging the back of the throat.

Davies is also moving around in a vacuum that his fame and his return have created: Everyone else — new team-mates, coaches and attendants, all seem to move around him, but never touching him. Even with his coathanger-shoulders, he is by some way the smallest and narrowest man in the room, but he is long used to that.

Occasionally he smiles, but it is the smile of apprehension. He suddenly discovers that there are pockets in his shorts and has a laugh about that; they do not have pockets in the league code. Shortly after, he removes his shirt and asks an attendant to cut off the sleeves at the elbows, another league legacy. There are less than 45 minutes to the start of the Heineken League match with Aberavon and Alex Evans, Cardiff's director of coaching, has been barking out advice for sometime. "Think about your *own* game. Think about what *you're* going to do," he shouts at no 14 players in particular.

An official enters to check studs and delays over one of the nimblest pairs of feet to grace a rugby field (of whatever persuasion). Twice he asks to see the other set of studs. "I've only got two legs you know," Davies lilts.

At 3.20pm, Evans closes the doors and delivers his team talk. He advises caution with regard to the former Cardiff players in Aberavon's ranks, compares Cardiff in not unflattering terms with the All Blacks and more or less tells his players that he expects them to win.

He then addresses the other 14 again, some of whom are rumoured to be unhappy at the money paid to the new recruit. "It is not a matter of saying that we have Jonathan in our team. He knows that as well as I do ..." at this point Jonathan's face is flushed and staring down at the floor. "No one's going to move over for Jonathan Davies and why should they? Mike Rayer [who was dropped to make room for Davies] has said that he is not going to and why should he? Rayer is the fittest man in Welsh rugby. Why should anyone?

"But to do that, we have to present ourselves like Jonathan. Totally professional, totally dedicated." At this point Evans interrupts himself to round on one individual in particular, someone who has ambitions to be an international himself, and gives him a ferocious dressing down.

At that, they troop outside for a 25-minute warm-up on the pitch before returning at 3.50pm. There is desperately little time left. From his corner, Davies appears to start gagging, he removes his gumshield and darts into the washrooms, from where further ghastly sounds emanate. Is he being sick? He returns too promptly for that, but is looking as nervous as ever.

Now all hell is let loose. A table has been swept aside and 15 men are in the middle of the room, running on their toes and chanting and shouting. They will continue to do this until they leave the room. "Three minutes and we'll be out there! Let's get a buzz! This is the biggest game they'll have! If we play, they *cannot* compete!"

Then someone shouts above the other voices. It must be the captain. "Jonathan Davies! A lot of people have put faith in you today! Don't let them down! Good luck and welcome to Cardiff!" And then everyone claps before sharing in a couple of 15-men bearhugs. "OK. Let's go!" Only then does Evans touch him on the shoulder and a team-mate pats him on the rump by way of good luck.

Obree fails in double record attempt

GRAEME OBREE, the world 4,000 metres pursuit champion, left the Manchester Velodrome last night with neither of the two British cycling records he was seeking (Peter Bryan writes). The Scot showed an excess of confidence in first attempting to lower the 1,000 metres flying start record of 58.995sec, set at altitude in Colombia by Shaun Wallace nine years ago; Obree recorded 1min 02.225sec.

He was more suited to his second ride, the 5,000m, with Colin Sturgess's 1992 time of 5min 35.026sec to beat. But before he went to the line he had to change bikes when the saddle-pin snapped on his original mount. The attempt also ended in failure for Obree after a slow opening kilometre time of 1min 12.171sec.

"When I tried to up the pace to the half distance my legs did not respond," he said. His initial setback was not overcome and Obree finished 1.462sec in arrears with a time of 5min 36.488sec.

His record attempts were made during the eight-nation track competition, won by the French squad who beat Denmark, the 1994 winners, by 46 points to 42. Britain was fourth with 23 points.

Emma Davies improved her own junior flying start 500m record by 0.772sec to 33sec, a time that also beat Sally Boyden's womens' British best.

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138	127

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صكذا من الاصل

Northampton sustain eight-try average with second-half rout of London Scottish

McGeechan helps the revolution forward

Northampton 54
London Scottish 11

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

ALL season Northampton have claimed to be a first division club operating in the second division. Every Saturday they have proved it. Before the Courage Clubs Championship is over in April, they will have shattered every national league record on their road back to the top flight and this season will seem like an aberration.

Yet, in a sense, it has been the making of them. Relegation last April was a reminder that revolution — which is what a famous old club went through six years ago — must always be consolidated by results. So Northampton, players and administrators, went out and worked harder. Thus, as Tim Rodber says, when the Rugby Football Union's moratorium comes down, they will be as close to a fully-professional sporting unit as any other rugby club, with the sole exception of Newcastle.

"The club is very forward-looking, the atmosphere pro-professionalism, pro-development and intent on reaching the top four in the country," Rodber, the captain, said. "But we also want to make a statement with our rugby, we want to invite people to come and watch us."

These are not the same players who went down to the second division. Many of the personnel remain but their skills are infinitely better and their confidence knows no bounds. Indeed, it sometimes outruns them and, for 50 minutes at Franklins Gardens on Saturday, they found themselves in the unusual position of being held by a feisty London Scottish side demanding the answers to questions no team in the second division has put to Northampton.

That Northampton came up with the answers is demonstrated by the 42 points they scored in the final half-hour, sustaining their eight-try average for the season and passing the second-division points-scoring record. With half the season still to come, they stand on 474 points, 102 short of the all-comers' record by Rotherham earlier this year.

"We are looking at getting the structure right, how we can compete in a professional rugby world," Ian McGeechan, Northampton's director of rugby, said. He received exactly the support he wanted last week when Martin Bayfield, the England lock, turned down a projected transfer to Harlequins: "Martin gave a good signal to everyone at the club that there is a future here," McGeechan added.

But the Scottish coach, who has established a multi-cultural group of players from England, Scotland and Ireland to work with, is as concerned with the quality of rugby produced. Judging by the support the club receives from the town, he is succeeding. Nearly 7,500 packed the ground for the clash between first and second in the division, the biggest crowd since the fourth-round Pilkington Cup tie with Bath in 1992.

They are watching a style of play which McGeechan had established during the dying days of last April, when it was too late. Now that he has confirmed it in the players' eyes, and more importantly their minds, Northampton are blowing opponents away.

That London Scottish could play so well, without their first-choice half backs and with no significant lineout presence, is a tribute to their own feats this season. The first side to take on Northampton at the running game, they led for much of the first half, thanks to their excellent back row, the attacking flair of Russell from full back and the pace of Watson on the wing.

Yet even their high fitness levels proved inadequate against Northampton's exciting blend of strength and speed, and their endeavours to deny possession led to a yellow card for Duthie for persistent infringement. McGeechan, in a happy gesture, described Brian Campsall's refereeing as the best he had seen this season, explicitly in his demands that players keep to their feet and observe the offside line.

Given so much possession, the decision-making of Northampton's young half backs is coming on apace. Dawson's explosive break is tempered by sounder judgment and Grayson, leading a back division oozing quality, has matured well all year. Yet Northampton could not break free until the Exiles' loss at half-time, with bruised ribs, of the hard-tackling Eriksson, one of several promising players to lure Roy Laidlaw, one of Scotland's development officers, well south of the border.

Russell's second penalty left the Scottish only one point adrift before the roof fell in. Dawson nipped over after his forwards, not for the first time, had splintered the Scottish scrum and Grayson's high kick created Townsend's first opportunity. Thorneycroft, a far more subtle player this season, galloped home for his second try and, suddenly, Northampton were out of sight — of London Scottish and the entire division.

SCORERS: Northampton: Tries: Townsend (3), Thorneycroft (2), Seely, Dawson, Phillips. Conversions: Grayson (7) London Scottish: Try: Signorini Penalty goals: Russell (2)
NORTHAMPTON: M Dods, N Beal, G Townsend, M Allen, H Thorneycroft; P Grayson, M Dawson, M Volland, T Beddow, M Hynes, T Rodber, J Phillips, M Bayfield, A Pountney, G Seely Rodber replaced by D Merlin (70mn)
LONDON SCOTTISH: G Fraser; T Watson, F Harrold, R Eriksson, M Sly; C Russell, A Withers-Green, D Signorini, L Mair, P Burnell, M Duthie, A Nesbitt, D Ort-Ewing, S Holmes, I Morrison. Eriksson replaced by S Pearson (40)
Referee: B Campsall (Yorkshire)

Full results and league tables ... Page 32


MARC ASPLAND

Holmes, the London Scottish captain, tries to cover a break by Dawson, the Northampton scrum half, in Northampton's 54-11 victory

Fijians to request Botica to provide kick-start

Pontypridd 31
Fijians 13

By Gerald Davies

FIJI, afforded the space and given yawning gaps to run through in Treorchy, found no such freedom or generosity in Pontypridd on Saturday. The autumnal sun was still warmly welcoming and the pitch as firm as they would wish for their running game. But that was as far as the courtesies went. The match proved a tough contest, uncompromising but, apart from a booting aberration by Cavubati early on, clean.

Each side threw all they had at the other but most of the avenues were closed. The tackling was fierce, bone-crushing at times. Both teams had to work hard for their tries. The home team outscoring the visitors by 3-2.

More significant, however, was the place kicking. Jenkins might have missed a touchline conversion and hit a post with a penalty attempt, but he still managed to collect 16 points. Waqa, on the other hand, while succeeding with his first shot at goal, floundered thereafter.

This was not a peculiarity of Saturday. The kicking failures are infecting the whole tour. In the five matches so far, the Fijians have missed 33 attempts at goal. Something must be done before Saturday's international and Brad Johnson, their technical advisor, will this week call on Frano Botica to come and offer some advice.

Pontypridd's success was founded on a well-organised defence and a comprehensive control of the maul. That they were able to win the lineout through the efforts of Rowle, meant they could direct matters. This was seen in their first try. Rowle's two-handed catch allowed the other forwards to bind around him before driving swiftly for 20 metres, Phil John being awarded the score. Jenkins, who had a marvellous match, converted.

Pontypridd were seen at their best when the forwards linked quickly with the backs and Cormack was released from full back. Such a move brought the second try, although someone less slippery than Manley might not have squeezed in at the corner. Thomas and Lloyd constructed a manoeuvre from a scrum close to Fiji's line. Linking up with Paul John, the full back made the break which gave the winger just enough light.

Jenkins extended the lead with a penalty before Fiji produced their best passage of play, winning ruck after ruck, before Vatureva, a lock with inclinations for turning up in midfield, broke the defence and Bogisa and Waqa sent Bari in for their first try.

After the interval, Jenkins was on target twice before Rokotuiviwa's try gave a hint of a revival. But Jenkins kicked another penalty before Steele Lewis got a final try two minutes into injury time.

SCORERS: Pontypridd: Tries: Phil John, Manley, S Lewis. Conversions: Jenkins (2). Penalty goals: Jenkins (4) Fiji: Tries: Bari, Rokotuiviwa. Penalty goals: J Waqa.
PONTYPRIDD: K Cormack, D Manley, J Lewis, S Lewis, G Jones, N Jenkins, Paul John, N Bezani, Phil John, N Eynon, M Spiller, G Prosser, M Rowley, P Thomas, M Lloyd. M Lloyd replaced by R Collins (67mn) Paul John replaced by N Lloyd (62mn)
FIJIANS: J Waqa; E Bolbolo, W Rokotuiviwa, R Bogisa, M Bari; O Turuva, J McLennan; S Dadna, E Batimala. B Cavubati, T Tamanivalu (replaced by W Masirewa 46mins), A Nadolo, L Vatureva, M Korovou. S Vonolagi. Tamanivalu replaced by W Masirewa (46mn)
Referee: R McDowell (Ireland).

Harlequins pay for adventure

Harlequins 25
Leicester 29

By John Hopkins

UNDER the lash of Dick Best's tongue and Keith Richardson's gritty coaching, Harlequins were supposed to have stopped being feckless. It was thought they had become hard-nosed and banished moments of dilettantism from their repertoire.

Not so, it seems. There were many moments when Harlequins' supporters were reduced to teeth-grinding numbness, sometimes by the referee, sometimes by Leicester but most often by their own players. Harlequins dominated a stirring game on a magnificent autumnal afternoon, scoring as many tries in this game as Leicester had conceded all season.

Even Rory Underwood, Leicester's acting captain in the absence of Dean Richards, who strained a calf muscle in training, admitted that Harlequins had played exceptionally well. Yet Leicester took the two points.


Underwood: vital try

Harlequins had every kind of superiority — moral, tactical, positional. Yet they gave away 14 points in 15 minutes. First, Underwood intercepted a pass from Will Carling, who later hurt his neck, though it is not thought to be serious, and ran in a try from halfway. Then, Harlequins conceded a penalty try. Five minutes later, Challinor missed an easy penalty from in front of the posts, smothering his kick badly.

What is it with Harlequins? Are they sophisticated in rugby, as their image suggests? Are they streetwise? The answer to both is no. On this evidence, they are not half as sophisticated or streetwise as Leicester. As Richardson said, in reference to the unworldliness of his team: "Our lads wouldn't know what a street was — an avenue, perhaps, or maybe a boulevard."

Leicester are second in the Courage Clubs Championship first division, trailing Bath by two points, because they have learnt how to win games like this, which by rights they should have lost. Harlequins are third, six points behind Bath, because they still lose games like this, which they ought to have won.

"We didn't help ourselves," Richardson said. "We still have a soft underbelly. We tried to play rugby and we succeeded. We showed we can play league rugby that is exciting."

In this, Harlequins deserve sympathy. They attempted more than Leicester and, as happens so often to those who attempt more, in the end they lost more. It might be stretching things a little to say that Richardson thought it was a moral victory for Harlequins but he was certainly not downcast.

"Last year we got stuffed [by Leicester]. We nearly won this year. No one can deny we were the better footballing side. We showed that we can score downright good tries."

One wonders what Brian Moore made of it from his position on the bench. An advertisement in the programme urged us to take note of Moore's nose. What was new about that? Opposing hookers and front-row forwards had been doing that for years.

Read on and the advertisement said: "Read his wine column in *Today*." Was that wine with an "h", several people asked. Had Moore been captain, as he was last season, he would probably have been doing his share of that after this game.

SCORERS: Harlequins: Tries: Sheasby, Mensah, O'Leary. Conversions: Challinor (2) Penalty goals: Challinor (2). Leicester: Tries: Underwood, penalty try. Conversions: Liley (2). Penalty goals: Liley (5)
HARLEQUINS: C Wright; D O'Leary, W Carling, P Mensah, W Greenwood; P Challinor, R Kitchin; S Brown, S Mitchell, A Mullins, M Watson, A Snow, P Thresher. R Jenkins, C Sheasby Thresher replaced by G Allison (38min), Carling replaced by A Jones (76).
LEICESTER: J Liley. S Hackney, I Bates, R Robinson, R Underwood, N Malone, A Kardooni; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garforth, J Wells, M Johnson, M Poole, N Back, C Tatbuck. Back replaced by J Wingham (53).
Referee: J Watts (Somerset)

West can take consolation from signs of promise

Wasps 24
West Hartlepool 16
(abandoned after 68min)

By Bryan Stiles

AT LEAST West Hartlepool had the consolation of not losing a Courage Clubs Championship match on Saturday. The abandonment of their game against Wasps after 68 minutes, when the London club led 24-16, meant they had not extended their sequence of eight defeats as they continued to lie pointless at the foot of the first division.

The match was so fluid, though, that the result could have gone to either team if the game had taken the full course. West Hartlepool's hopes will be high that, if the match is replayed, they can give Wasps another good run.

The game was initially held up when Rob Wainwright, the West and Scotland No 8, left the field to help tend to a man who had suffered a heart attack in the stands. Wainwright, an Army medical officer, attended the man with another doctor and a physiotherapist until the ambulance arrived. After staying on the pitch for several minutes, the teams went to the dressing-rooms.

After a meeting of officials from both clubs, and with the ambulance still parked on the pitch half an hour after the stoppage began, Chris Harrison, the referee, called off the match. The organising committee of the Courage League will rule whether the match has to be replayed or the score be allowed to stand. The decision may be made today.

The game had been a harum-scarum affair with both sides flinging the ball around as if it were white hot. Wasps were true to their philosophy of total 15-man rugby and it worked well in spasms, producing some exciting tries, but poor handling often let them down.

The policy of running nearly every penalty almost backfired as they rejected the opportunity to put perhaps more than a score of points on the board from penalties close to their rivals' posts.

West gave Wasps a scare when they nudged into the lead 13-12 early in the second half and Lawrence Dallaglio, the new Wasps captain, must have been wishing he had not spurned the chance of those penalty goal points. But he led his troops into all-out attack with relish and they collected two more tries before the match was stopped.

Despite their lowly position, the West team is full of good things. Their forwards attack with pace and imagination in the loose and they secured good possession from the lineout.

SCORERS: Wasps: Tries: Hopley, Roiser (2), Penalty try. Conversions: Gregory (2). West Hartlepool: Tries: Hodder, Stimpson. Penalty goals: Stimpson (2).
WASPS: J Ufton; N Greenstock, D Hopley, A James, S Roiser; G Gregory, S Bates, D Molloy, P Delaney, I Dunston, L Dallaglio, M Greenwood, R Kinsey, M White, P Sanvener.
WEST HARTLEPOOL: T Stimpson; J Benson, P Hodder, C Lee, A Blyth, A Parker, S Cook; P Beal, T Herbert, M Shelley, D Mitchell, C Murphy, K Westgarth, R Leach, R Wainwright.
Referee: C Harrison (E Midlands)

Doctor at large, page 5

Sale's account ends in deficit

Sale 18
Bath 30

By Christopher Irvine

SALE launched their own piece of plastic on Saturday and were in credit until the 74th minute. But, having acquired the winning habit, Bath rarely leave home without it.

Many an inflexible foe has got Sale to bend in matches at Heywood Road they have been winning. Yet the 17 points they conceded in the last six minutes, distorted the earlier pattern of well-balanced thrust and parry.

To rattle the leaders of the Courage Clubs Championship in such a thrilling manner, spoke volumes for Sale's burgeoning prowess. Certainly, there is no reason why they should lose the thread, as happened after narrow home defeats by Leicester and Wasps in September.

However, Bath's was a victory waiting to happen once Sale tired and the admirable Baldwin, whose supply of lineout ball provided the home side's attacking platform, limped off. Sale had already given their all by the time Bath found a higher gear.

Bath have amended their training after studying Wigan. Getting waves of runners racing on to first, second, third and fourth-phase possession is a variation on rugby league's tackle law. But they need to handle as proficiently throughout as they managed in the sustained passage of recycling for Callard's try.

Nonetheless, Bath are further down the Damascus road towards creating a more rewarding game for players and spectators alike, and Saturday's encounter must have assisted that process. It was an uplifting afternoon in which the tussle for the baton between the opposing conductors, Turner, for Sale, and Butland for Bath, was among the most arresting features.

The England selectors go on ignoring Sale, but the chosen ones, notably Guscott, Callard, Robinson and Clarke, often looked inferior to Baxendell, Mallinder, Hewitt and Vyvyan, their opposite numbers. Turner, as always, pulled the strings, switching play right for Mallinder's opening try and sending out a looping cut-out pass for Baxendell in a two-man overlap, after Bath had only just drawn level.

For the first of his two tries, Lumsden profited from a break by de Glanville, who made an inspirational contribution. A missed conversion and subsequent poor penalty attempt by Liley, plus some unyielding defence, helped keep Bath in range before they produced their stunning finale.

Callard's touchline conversion of his own try nudged them ahead. Guscott, finding daylight as Baxendell dropped off him for once, chipped ahead and Lumsden beat Warr to the touchdown. Sale were cruelly taunted by Callard's conversion and a further penalty.

SCORERS: Sale: Tries: Mallinder, Baxendell Conversion: Liley Penalty goals: Liley (2) Bath: Tries: Lumsden (2), Callard Conversions: Callard (3) Penalty goals: Callard (3).
SALE: J Mallinder, R Liley, J Baxendell, G Higginbotham, C Yates; P Turner, M Warr; A Yates, S Diamond, A Smith, P Hewitt, J Fowler, D Baldwin, N Ashurst, C Vyvyan. Baldwin replaced by D Erskine (57min) Yates replaced by M Redshaigh (78).
BATH: J Callard; A Lumsden, P de Glanville, J Guscott, A Adebayo, R Butland; I Sanders; D Hilton, G Dawe, V Ubogu, A Robinson. M Haag, N Redman, S Ojomoh, B Clarke
Referee: C Rees (London).

Ella produces few ripples

Coventry 78
Stourbridge 20

By Barry Trowbridge

BEFORE headlines such as "Top Australian hits Britain" or "Wallaby back to boost Stourbridge" complicate Glen Ella's arrival on British shores, it must be emphasised that Bath and Leicester have little to fear. The least capped and, therefore, least known of the three (of six) Ella brothers to play for Australia has been attracted north purely by wanderlust

As Ceri Davies, the press officer at Stourbridge and with a brother quite well known at Wasps and among sports trivia enthusiasts, continued: "It is no more than Glen [and his family] on a bit of a walkabout."

Sure, it was not an errant pin that determined that Ella's excursion north would end in a coaching capacity in one of the more rural parts of the West Midlands — John Collins, a former captain of Stourbridge, has forged a link with Ella's Randwick club in Sydney — but do not expect Stourbridge to be metamorphosised to anywhere near the extent that Northampton were recently under Wayne Shelford.

"Certainly, there were problems in the defence that need sorting out," Ella said, "but we must consolidate before we speculate. Hopefully, we can establish a working link with Randwick and see, perhaps, Tigger [Dawson, the Stourbridge scrum half] playing there next season."

As an obvious devotee to the more social aspects of rugby union, Ella was not too displeased to see "his side" so comprehensively hammered in the third round of the Pilkington Cup at Coundon Road on Saturday, Coventry's clinical finishing producing seven points virtually every time they reached the 22.

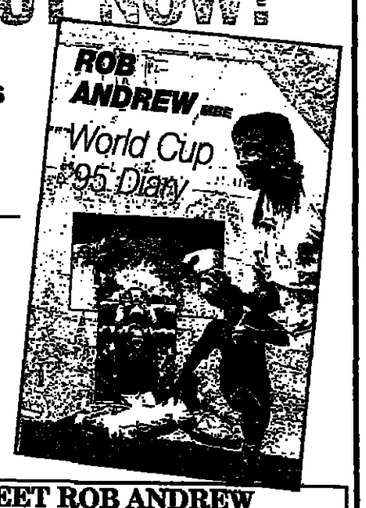
Three tries by Steve Chapman in half-an-hour set the pattern; two by Julian Hyde before half-time threatened embarrassment, but Stourbridge at least scored two of their own after the break.

Whatever the draw for the fourth round provides for Coventry today, success of failure this season will, to a large extent, revolve around their meeting on Saturday with Richmond, who lead them by four points at the top of the third division of the Courage Clubs Championship.

As for Ella and Davies, they were left to contemplate the possibility of Ella's eight-year-old son and Davies's ten-year-old daughter linking up for the "mini" side at Stourbridge next weekend.

Neither situation will affect the Baths, Leicesters, Harlequins or, indeed, Newcastles of this world. Not far below the cream, rugby union is as amateur as ever it was; long may it be so.

SCORERS: Coventry: Tries: Chapman (3), Hyde (2), Quick (2), Grewcock, Shepherd, Russell, Hancox, R Savenmutto Conversions: Quick (9). Stourbridge: Tries: James, Smith. Conversions: Mann (2). Penalty goals: Mann (2).
COVENTRY: C Quick; S Chapman, S Hancox, A Savenmutto, B Shepherd, J Hart, P Lydster; G Tregilgas, D Addleton, R Hardwick, S Russell, J Hyde, D Grewcock, J Horrobin, S Smith. Chapman replaced by S Barden (39mn); Horrobin replaced by R Blundell (60); Hart replaced by R Savenmutto (70)
STOURBRIDGE: B Edwards, A James, J John, A Tapper, R Trigg, C Mann, A Dawson; G Smith, N Waddington, R Merritt, S Bayliss, J Taylor, N Mitchell, S Lewis, D Smallman. Bayliss replaced by J Russell (46); Mitchell replaced by S Phillips (72).
Referee: D Sainsbury (London).

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FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

BARNSLEY: Yorkshire Electricity 10km road race (inc Inter-Counties championship): Men: 1, A Pearson (Longwood/Yorkshire) 28min 21sec; 2, G Nuruki (Ken) 29.31; 3, M Flint (Royal Air Force) 29.35; 4, M McLoughlin (Liverpool Pembroke/Merseyside) 29.43; 5, J Lisiewicz (Morpeth/North East) 29.45; 6, C Moore (Bingley/Yorkshire) 29.49. Teams: 1, Liverpool 152; 2, Barnsley 168; 3, Royal Air Force 210. Inter-counties championship: 1, Yorkshire 30; 2, Merseyside 40; 3, North-East 71. Women: 1, S Young (Salford/Greater Manchester) 33.30; 2, A Hulley (Leeds City/Yorkshire) 33.36; 3, H Heasman (Horwich/Greater Manchester) 39.45. Teams: Liverpool 66; 2, Halifax 138. Inter-Counties Championship: 1, Greater Manchester 21; 2, North-East 52; 3, Merseyside 74. Veterans: Men: 1, N Gates (Brighton and Hove) 30.49; 2, B Kirkwood (Lesley Deans RC) 31.11; 3, D Gratton (Wakefield) 31.37. Teams: 1, Nene Valley 55; 2, Royal Air Force 60; 3, Rotherham 73. Women: 1, J Holt (Trafford) 34.58; 2, D Underwood (Centurion) 35.24; 3, D Hepplewhite (Duke Street) 36.50. Teams: 1, Redhill 27; 2, Barnsley 50; 3, Longwood 70.

BRISTOL: Iron Hill Mike Sully International: Men (5 miles): 1, J Kipkemboi (Ken) 23.45; 2, C Jones (Wales) 23.51; 3, S Barden (England) 23.57; 4, S Knight (Wales) 23.58; 5, D Payne (England) 23.59; 6, I Comford (Shaftesbury Barnet) 24.00. Teams: 1, England 32; 2, Wales 43; 3, Kenya 111; 4, Royal Air Force 133. Inter-club: 1, Bristol 80; 2, Bideford 139; 3, Oxford University 162. Veteran: D Bedwell (Bristol) 27.45. Over 50: A Garrett (Cardiff) 29.19. Women (3 miles): 1, R Spies (Oxford University) 16.09; 2, N Lynch (Oxford University) 16.13; 3, W Orr (Cardiff) 16.25. Teams: 1, Oxford University 13; 2, Westbury 24; 3, Wells City 52. Veteran: D Hoogestger (Wells City) 17.53.

HAVANT: Lumnons Hampshire Cross Country League: Men (9.9km): 1, J Jackson (Aldershot, Farnham and District) 31.34; 2, P Blake (Bournemouth) 31.54; 3, M Giles (Overton) 32.00. Teams: 1, Aldershot Farnham and District 29; 2, Bournemouth 109; 3, Basingstoke and Mid Hants 111. Veteran: B Bailey (Aldershot, Farnham and District) 33.43. Women (5km): 1, C Hyde (Havant) 18.38; 2, J Harrop (Havant) 18.40; 3, K Bailey (Havant) 19.08. Teams: 1, Havant 6; 2, Aldershot, Farnham and District 20; 3, Team Solent 46.

KINGSBURY: Liddiard Trophy Cross Country match (5 miles): 1, J Pez (Highgate) 23.52; 2, A Jackson (Shaftesbury Barnet) 24.10; 3, A Halm (Thames Valley Harriers) 24.14. Teams: 1, Thames Valley Harriers 150; 2, Highgate 245; 3, Ealing, Southall and Middlesex 289. 4, Vertea 297; 5, London Irish 346; 6 Barnet 367.

REIGATE: Priory Cross Country Relays: Men (6 x 2.5 miles): 1, Tonbridge 1.20.24; 2, Cambridge Harriers 1.20.42; 3, Bexhill Racers 1.20.53. Fastest: M Shelton (Tonbridge) 12.48. Women (3 x 2.5 miles): 1, Windsor, Slough and Eton 48.59; 2, Arena 80 50.42; 3, South London Harriers 51.02. Fastest lap: A Hill (Windsor, Slough and Eton) 15.37.

RUNCORN: Liverpool and District Cross Country League (5.25 miles): 1, D Reilly (Liverpool Pembroke Sefton) 25.53; 2, M Kinch (Warrington) 26.11; 3, P Fearnley (Warrington) 26.22. Teams: 1, Warrington 61; 2, Chester and Ellesmere Port C 101; 3, Liverpool 153. Veteran: M McDevitt (Wirral) 26.34.

WALSALL: Birmingham and District Cross Country League: First division (5 miles): 1, G Thomans (Coventry Godiva) 26.28; 2, D Burrows (Birchfield) 26.36; 3, C Udall (Omega) 26.40; 4, R Birchall (Omega) 26.40; 5, I Gillespie (Birchfield) 27.10; 6, K Lamb (Tipton) 27.07. Teams: 1, Tipton 76; 2, Coventry Godiva 98; 3, Birchfield 112; 4, Loughborough 191; 5, Birmingham University 197; 6, Omega 213.

COULSDON: Veterans Inter-club Mob Cross-Country Match (7.5 miles): Men: 1, R Gevers (South London Harriers) 48.47; 2, R Coe (Blackheath) 48.05; 3, K Daniel (Blackheath) 48.33. Women: J Quantrell (South London Harriers) 60.01. Teams: 1, South London Harriers 90; 2, Blackheath 100; 3, Ranelagh 250.

PUTNEY VALE: Inter-club Cross-Country Match (5 miles): Men: 1, A Gibbons (Thames Hare and Hounds) 29.43; 2, M Cigila (Hercules Wimbledon) 29.44; 3, V Hancock (Hercules Wimbledon) 29.52. Teams: 1, Thames Hare and Hounds 67; 2, Hercules Wimbledon 67; 3, Millocarians 230. Veteran over 60: K Spacie (Thames Hare and Hounds) 35.49.

STEYNING: Inter-club road walk (10km): 1, D Stone (Steyning) 44.39; 2, J Ball (Steyning) 44.57; 3, R Mecham (Steyning) 50.58. Women: 1, D Wallen (Aldershot, Farnham and District) 55.59; 2, S Warren (Steyning) 56.15; 3, L Ford-Dunn (Steyning) 59.00.

THUNDERSLEY: Essex League road walk (5km): 1, S Monk (Loughton) 23.05 (course record); 2, M Dane (Colchester) 23.39; 3, S Uttley (Ilford) 23.48.

WOKING: Open 3 miles road race: 1, A Heslop (Aldershot, Farnham and District) 15.28; 2, S Bellord (Phillips Petroleum) 15.45; 3, R Parkin (unattached) 15.56. Women: D Knott (unattached) 20.27.

SHEEN: Inter-club cross country race (5 miles): 1, B Thursley-Pelham (Kingston and Polytechnic) 27.04; 2, A Buckinheewicz (Kingston and Polytechnic) 27.20; 3, D Hoddinott (Kingston and Polytechnic) 29.14.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Manchester 81 *London 76.*

7UP TROPHY (North): Derby 88 Leicester 66.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Atlanta 124 Orlando 91. Charlotte 119 Philadelphia 109. Indiana 97 Toronto 89. Miami 85 Cleveland 71. Washington 100 Detroit 89. Chicago 107 Boston 85. Dallas 99 Golden State 84. New York 84 *Milwaukee 71.* San Antonio 116 Denver 103. Seattle 103 LA Lakers 89.

BOXING

CAESARS PALACE, Las Vegas: Heavyweight: Riddick Bowe (US) bt Evander Holyfield (US), rsc 8th.

SUN CITY: International Boxing Federation Lightweight championship: Phillip Holiday (SA, holder) bt Raymondo Martinez (US), pts.

BANGKOK: World Boxing Federation Super-flyweight championship: Sampson Dutchboy Gym (Tha, holder) bt Us Guzman (Dom), rsc 4th.

DUDLEY: Commonwealth Middleweight championship (vacant, 6 rnds): Robert McCracken (Birmingham) bt Fitzgerald Bruney (Can), pts. Light-middleweight (6 rnds): David Ean (Wolverhampton) bt Robert Stevenson (Hull), pts. Light-welterweight (6 rnds): Gary Hiscox (Dudley) bt Michael Watson (Nottingham), pts. Light-heavyweight (6 rnds): John Keaton (Sheffield) bt Monty Wright (Stevenage), rsc 4th. Super-featherweight (6 rnds): Yifru Retta (London) bt Bammara Dibatssa (London), pts.

BOWLS

HONG KONG: International Pairs Competition (Hong Kong unless stated): Semi-finals: N Burkett and D Pikeih (SA) 23 D Tso and B McMahon 14; A Marshall and K Logan (Scot) 24; R Price and Philip Rowlands (Wales) 10. Final: A Marshall and K Logan 19 N Burkett and D Pikeih 18.

LIBERTY TROPHY: Group one: Cumbria 153 Lancashire 98. Northumberland 108 Durham 112. Group two: Nottinghamshire 130 Derbyshire 100; Yorkshire 118 Lincolnshire 114. Group three: Northamptonshire 161 Worcestershire 75. Warwickshire 114 Leicestershire 111. Group four: Bedfordshire 112 Hertfordshire 117. Cambridgeshire 114 Norfolk 128. Group five: Herefordshire 116 Oxfordshire 121; Gloucestershire 103 Wiltshire 131. Group six: Somerset 120 Cornwall 121; Devon 145 Dorset 100. Group seven: Nottinghamshire 118 Sussex 103; Berkshire 103 Hampshire 132. Group eight: Middlesex 124 Kent 112; Essex 125 Surrey 106.

CRICKET

TOUR MATCHES: Adelaide (final day of four): South Australia 392-8 dec (D S Lehmann 138, T J Nielsen 57, Saqlain Mushtaq 3-128) and 249 (G S Blewett 103 not out; J D Siddons 125) Wasim Akram 4-43). Pakistanis 276 (Basit Ali 137; J Gillespie 4-82, M Hurray 4-90) and 298-5 (Inzamam-ul-Haq 96, Basit Ali 101 not out). Match drawn. Hyderabad (final day of three): New Zealanders 454-4 dec and 276-4 (A Parore 96, S Fleming 100 not out, M Greatbatch 36). India Colts 180. Match drawn.

SHEFFIELD SHIELD (final day of four): Hobart: Tasmania 458-2 dec and 290-3 dec (R Ponting 100 not out, S Young 62 not out; C McDermott 2-65). Queensland 377-1 dec and 260-5 (S Law 107 not out, T Barsby 74, M Ridgway 3-59). Tasmania won on the first innings.

Tour match

Combined XI v England A XI

KARACHI (Combined XI won toss): England A XX, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 157 runs behind Combined XI

COMBINED XI: First Innings

Muhammad Ramzam b Giddins	3
Shahid Anwar c Pooley b Salisbury	15
*Shoaib Mohammad c Piper b Giddins	40
Azam Khan c Knight b Udal	55
Sohail Jaffer c McGrath b Irani	19
Mahmood Hamid c Knight b Salisbury	30
†Wasim Yousuf c Salisbury b Giddins	1
Nadeem Khan c Piper b Irani	10
Shahid Khan c Irani b Salisbury	11
Ather Laeeq not out	4
Taufiq Bader c and b Salisbury	0
Extras (b 2, lb 10, nb 4)	16
Total	204

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17, 2-25, 3-108, 4-140, 5-146, 6-165, 7-186, 8-188, 9-201.

BOWLING: Giddins 15-6-27-3; Smith 3.1-1-7-0; Irani 10.5-1-43-2; Salisbury 23-3-72-4, Udal 14-4-38-1, McGrath 2-0-5-0.

ENGLAND A XI: *First innings*

N V Knight not out	20
A McGrath not out	25
Extras (nb 2)	2
Total	47

*N Hussain, D P Ostler, J C Pooley, R C Irani, †K J Piper, I D K Salisbury, S D Udal, A M Smith and E S H Giddins to bat.

BOWLING: Laeeq 5-3-4-0; Bader 4-1-12-0; Shahid 3-0-9-0; Nadeem 5-1-16-0; Shoaib 2-0-6-0.

Umpires: Salim Bader and Islam Khan.

CASTLE CUP: Durban (second day of four): Natal 297 (J Rhodes 82 not out, D Crookes 81; R Snell 5-67, S Jack 4-83). Transvaal 218-7 (D Laing 56, K Rutherford 51). Port Elizabeth (second day): Eastern Province 216; Free State 337-5 (K Venter 91, D Jordaan 88, F Stephenson 71 not out). Pretoria (first day): Northern Transvaal 286-8 (A Seymore 124) v Western Province.

CYCLING

TOUR OF CHINA: Final Stage: 1, V Ekimov (Rus) 0hr 25min 28sec, 2, S Hegg (US) 0.25.31; 3, S Mercier (US) 0.25.33; 4, D Nardello (It) 0.25.38; 5, E Dekker (Holl) 0.25.49; 6, G Randolph (US) 0.25.53; 7, R Ganeachinov (Rus) 0.26.02; 8, A Elli (It) 0.26.05; 9, D Ozols (Lat) 0.26.11; 10, M McCarthy (US) 0.26.16. Final standings: 1, V Ekimov 11hr 03min 23sec; 2, D Nardello at 2 sec; 3, S Hegg (US) 11; 4, S Mercier 26; 5, E Dekker 39; 6, G Randolph 59; 7, A Elli at 1min 03sec; 8, N Alins 1.06; 9, R Ganeichinov 1.10; 10, P Gaumont (Fr) 1.23.

CYCLO-CROSS: BCCA International (Eastway, London, 22 kilometres): 1, M De Clercq (Bel) 52min 32sec; 2, R Hammond (GB) at 13sec; 3, B Clarke (Team Raleigh) at 19sec; 4, P Willemsens (Bel) at 36sec; 5, D Willemsens (Bel) at 46sec; 6, P Van Riet (Bel) at 1.06. Alford Wheelers (Lincolnshire, 10 miles): 1, M Daley (Cherry Valley RT) 58.40; 2, S Barron (VC Lincoln) at 2.06; 3, D Elmore (VC Lincoln) at 2.36. Wigan Wheelers (Beacon Country Park, 12 miles): 1, I Cuthberson (Team Kona) 1.01.54; 2, K Clark (North West MBC) at 1.50; 3, P Robinson (Team Stonefield) at 3.00. Kennoway RC (Glenrothes, Fife, 10.5 miles): 1, G Grant (Carnoum CC) 1.00.30; 2, S Duff (GS Modena) at 2.00; 3, C Shearer (unatt) at 2.35. Huddersfield Star Wheelers (Fartown, 12 miles): 1, C Horsfield (Team Sheffrec) 1.07.14; 2, A Peace (Helmeth Bridge) at 1.44; 3, A Whitworth (Huddersfield RC) at 3.43. Belper BC (Notts and Derbys League, Derby, 9 miles): 1, M Seddon (Ace RT) 54.15; 2, N Craig (Diamond Back) same time; 3, J Taylor (Brook CC) at 50sec.

HILL-CLIMBS: Essex and Suffolk Border Combine (Stavernarket, 600m): 1, J Lee (CC Breckland) 50.0sec; 2, M Jay (CC Sudbury) 52.9; 3, K Barker (Southend and County Whl) 53.2. Team: CC Sudbury 2.46.1. Sussex CA (Storrington, 1.7km): 1, R Horner (Fareham Wh) 3.57.4; 2, N Bates (Apollo RT) 4.05.7; 3, S House (Leo RC) 4.10.7. Team: Lewes Wanderers 16.11.0.

GOLF

CHATEAU ELAN, Georgia: Bauszan World Open: Second-round scores: 136: M A Jimenez (Sp) 67, 69. 138: J Daly (US) 70, 68, C Stadler (US) 68, 70; F Zaplar (US) 67, 71. 140: S Tobarone (Scot) 71, 69; E Aubrey (US) 70, 70; F Nobilo (NZ) 70, 70; E Romero (Arg) 69, 71. 141: E Els (SA) 71, 70; M Calcavecchia (US) 71, 70; A Forsbrand (Swe) 69, 72; M O'Meara 73, 68 (US). 142: M McNulty (Zim) 72, 70; R Goosen (SA) 70, 72; L Parsons (Aus) 70, 72; D Chopra (Swe) 68, 74; P Walton (Ire) 70, 72.

JAKARTA: Alfred Dunhill Masters: Final scores: 267: M Campbell (NZ) 69, 65, 68, 65. 272: C Parry (Aus) 66, 65, 72, 69; M Mouland (GB), 70, 67, 69, 66; 275: S Appleby (Aus) 69, 69, 72, 65. 276: W Grady (Aus) 72, 70, 68, 66. 277: V Singh (Fiji) 72, 72, 67, 66. 278: G Chalmers (Aus) 68, 67, 75, 68. 279: R Pampling (Aus) 74, 70, 67, 68; J Singh (India) 72, 68, 71, 70; M Allen (Aus) 69, 72, 68, 70; G Coles (Aus) 71, 67, 67, 74; M Gronberg (Swe) 66, 70, 69, 74. 280: S Leaney (Aus) 70, 71, 71, 68; G Norquist (US) 70, 73, 68, 69; A Pantier (Aus) 71, 72, 66, 71. 281: A Symes (Aus) 72, 71, 71, 67; D Zarate (Phil) 68, 71, 73, 69; E Droop (Aus) 68, 69, 73, 71; D Branscton (Aus) 69, 72, 68, 72.

HOCKEY

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: FIRST DIVISION: Guildford 2 Southgate 3; Canterbury 4 Havant 0; East Grinstead 1 Cannock 6; Hull 0 Surbiton 2; Indian Gymkhana 4 Bournville 2; Old Loughtonians 3 Hounslow 1; St Albans 1 Reading 6; Stourport 3 Teddington 5; Trojans 2 Barlord Tigers 2. Second division: City Of Portsmouth 0 Sheffield 2; Doncaster 3 Crosby 2; Edgbaston 0 Hampstead and Westminster 1; Gloucester City 3 Frebrands 1. Hazleston Magpies 3 Otton and West Warks 0; Isca 3 Bromley 1; Oxford University 2 Brooklands 2. Richmond 2 Beeston 5, Slough 2 Bluehears 2.

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier League: Ashford 2 Newbury 0; Berkhamham 0 Gore Court 0; Bournemouth 0 Spencer 2; Lewes 1 High Wycombe 1, Lions 3 Woking 1; Maidenhead 1 Old Kingstonians 0; Old Wallcountians 1 Wokingham 4; Oxford Hawks 4 Fareham 1; Wimbledon 1 Chichester 1; Winchester 3 Anchorians 2. Kent/Sussex: Belvedere 1 Horsham 3; Bexleyheath 1 Tulse Hill 1; Bexley Invicta 1 Mid Sussex 5; Blackheath 4 Sevenoaks 0; Bognor 1 Marden Russets 0; Brighton 4 Old Beccehamians 0; Crawley 0 Old Williamsonians 2; Herne Bay 2 Old Holcombians 1; Middleton 0 Old Bordenians 2; Worthing 0 Tunbridge Wells 4. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Amersham 2 Hayes 2; Bracknell 1 Hendon 0; City Of Oxford 3 Harrow 0; Eastcote 3 Marlow 1; ESSSA 0 Milton Keynes 0; Headington 2 HCC 1; Ramsgate 9 OMT 0; Richings Park 2 PHC Chiswick 0; Staines 2 Mill Hill 1; Sunbury 2 NPL 0; Hampshire/Surrey: Barnes 0 Purley 0; Camberley 2 Walton and Weybridge 1; Cheam 1 Andover 0; Dulwich 6 Southampton 2; London University 2 Basingstoke 3; Old Cranleighans 1 Petersfield 1; Old Edwardians 3 Oxshott 7; Old Whitgiftians 3 Old Mid Whitgiftians 2; Oxted 2 Blandford 2; Solent HC 2 Epsom 3.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Formby 3 Timperley 0; Halifax 0 Sheffield Bankers 2; Harrogate 1 Ben Rhydding 2; Southport 2 Neston 2. Warrington 0 Norton 0.

SUN LIFE LEAGUE: First division: Bath Buccs 2 Exeter University 0; Cheltenham 0 Plymouth 1; Swansea 3 Taunton Vale 1; Weston-super-Mare 1 Robinsons 6; Whitchurch 3 Bristol University 2.

DTZ DIEBENHAM THORPE LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper 5 Bridgnorth 1; Bloxwich 2 Khalsa 2; John Player 1 Harbourne 2; North Notts 0 Hampton-in-Arden 1; Nottingham 2 Loughborough Students 1.

ADNAMS HOCKEY EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Bedford Town 2 Cambridge City 4; Bishop's Stortford 2 Bury St Edmunds 3; Chelmsford 0 Peterborough Town 3; Colchester 1 Canbridge University 1; Ipswich 4 Redbridge and Ilford 1. Premier division B: Clacton 4 Brentwood 0; Dereham 3 Ipswich and East Suffolk 0; Norwich City 0 Westcliff 2; Old Southendian 3 Stevenage 1; Romford 1 Sudbury 2.

KUALA LUMPUR: Sultan Azlan Shah Tournament: Third place play-off: New Zealand 3 Canada 1. Final: India 2 Germany 2 (India won 5-4 on pens).

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Balsam Leicester 2 Clifton 1; Hightown 4 Bracknell 1; Slough 1 Ipswich 0; Sutton Canada Life 1 Doncaster 0. First division: Bluehairs 1 Trojans 2; Canterbury 3 Bradford Swinbenbank 1; Sunderland Bedams 1 Chelmsford 1; Wimbledon 2 Exmouth 3. Second division: Loughborough 4 Sherwood 0; Outer 4 Ealing 2; Reading 3 St Albans 1; Woking 1 Aldridge 3.

AEWHA CUP: Second round: Anchovens 1 Broxbourne 1 (Broxbourne win 5-4 on pens); Ashford (Kent) 1 Horsham (Sussex) 0; Aylesia (Kent) 0 City Of Portsmouth 2; Bingley 1 Billingham 2; Bournemouth 0 Lansdown 0 (Bournemouth win 4-1 on pens); Camberley 2 Winchmore Hill 0; Cambridge University 3 Dereham 1; Chamock 2 Shrewsbury 1; Cheltenham 1 West Witney 0; Cheshunt 0 Norwich City 1; Chester 0 Blackburn 2; Copdock 1 Old Loughtonians 4; Crimson Ramblers 4 Lincoln Imps 0; Crosby 2 Leyland Motors 5; Deeside Ramblers 0 Liverpool 1; Dudley 2 Craven Arms 0; Eastcote 0 Dulwich 1; East Glos 1 Winchester 2; Exeter 2 St Austell 1; Falmouth 0 Penzance 2; Farnborough 7 Bromley 0; Gloucester City 0 Havant 3; Harleston Magpies w/o Leicheorth scr; Harrow 0 Wokingham 0 (Harrow 1-0 on pens); Hendon 1 Gravesend 1 (Hendon win 4-1 on pens); Kings Heath 0 Leominster 4; Luton Town 7 Waltham Forest 0; Maidenhead 7 Folkstone Optimists 0; Matlock Bathans 0 York 7; Newcastle 5 Caledonians 0; Norwich Union 6 Peterborough 1 (Peterborough win 5-4 on pens); Poynton 9 Ambleside 0; Redbridge and Ilford 1 Teddington 0; Rover Cowley 3 Yate 1; Sevenoaks 1 Welwyn Garden City 0 (Sevenoaks 3-2 on pens); Sheffield 1 North Staffs 2; Southampton 5 Wycombe Rye 0; Towcestrians 0 Hampton-in-Arden 7; Tulse Hill 4 Newbury 0; Winnington Park 1 Pickwick 0.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Friday: Buffalo 3 Pittsburgh 3 (OT); Tampa Bay 5 NY Islanders 3; Florida 3 Washington 2; Colorado 5 Winnipeg 2; Anaheim 7 NY Rangers 4; Vancouver 4 Toronto 4 (OT). Saturday: Detroit 5 Dallas 1; Washington 3 NY Islanders 2; Pittsburgh 7 Philadelphia 4; Edmonton 3 Toronto 3 (OT); Montreal 4 Boston 1; Hartford 5 Ottawa 4; New Jersey 4 Los Angeles 2; San Jose 7 St Louis 3; Calgary 4 Vancouver 4.

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Sheffield 6 Fife 3 (OT, Sheffield win 9-8 on agg).

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke 2 Humberside 6; Milton Keynes 6 Cardiff 9; Nottingham 13 Newcastle 3; Slough 5 Durham 10. First division: Billingham 2 Manchester 13; Blackburn 11 Medway 5; Guildford 10 Peterborough 1; Murrayfield 4 Chelmsford 3; Solihull 4 Dumfries 12 (Swindon 6 Paisley 5; Telford 6 Bracknell 4.

LACROSSE

SHEPHERDS FRIENDLY SOCIETY: North Of England: Premier division: Cheadle 15 Cheadle Hulme 6; Boardman and Eccles 16 Timperley 16; Heaton Mersey 17 Sheffield Steelers 4; Poynton 8 Old Waconians 13; Hulmeians 6 Stockport 17.

WOMEN'S SOUTH JUNIOR COUNTY TOURNAMENT: Final Teams: Middlesex 9 Sussex 0; Surrey 8 Sussex 2; Surrey 9 Middlesex 7. Second Teams: Middlesex 7 Surrey 3; Surrey 8 Sussex 1; Middlesex 18 Sussex 0 (Middlesex won both titles).

MOTOR RACING

ZHUHAI, China: International Endurance GT Championship: 12th round (96 laps, 240 miles): 1, A Wallace (GB) and O Grouillard (Fr) McLaren F1 GTR 3hr 1min 24.750sec (ave speed 83.344mph); 2, J Nielsen (Den) and T Bscher (Ger) McLaren F1 GTR 3.02.09.158; 3, F Girpi (Fr) and J-D Deletraz (Switz) McLaren F1 GTR at 94 laps; 4, E Calderari and L Bryner (Switz) Porsche 911 Turbo at 90 laps; 5, J-L Maury-Laribiere and J-P Libert (Fr) Porsche 911 Turbo at 89 laps; 6, E Cheneo (Fra) and Y Herve (Jpn) Porsche 911 Turbo at 85 laps; 7, A Li and A Lo (HK) and B Whitlock (GB) Porsche 911 Turbo at 79 laps; 8, M Collins and P Smanotto (Fr) Porsche 911 Turbo at 78 laps; 9, M Goddard (GB) and P Nile (HK) and M Pickup (GB) Porsche 911 Turbo at 78 laps; 10, F Snackler and F Schuster (Den) Porsche 911 Turbo at 76 laps. Fastest lap: Nielsen 1.45.662sec (189.44mph). Leading final standings: 1, Nielsen and Becher 252pts; 2, Bryner and Calderari 206; 3, R Belim (GB) and M Sala (Br) McLaren F1 GTR 201.

ROWING

MORTLAKE TO PUTNEY: Fullers Head of the river fours: Men: Quad Sculls: Open: 1, Leander 1, 18min 39sec. Senior two: London University and Molesey, 18min 46sec. Coxless Fours: Open: Goldie 1, 18min 30sec. Senior One: Imperial College I, 19min 28sec. Senior two: Oxford Brookes B, 19min 54sec. Coxed Fours: Open Goldie II, 19min 53sec. Senior one: Isis II, 18min 40sec. Senior two: Imperial College V, 19min 59. Senior three: Imperial College VI, 20min 19sec. Junior: Eton I, 20min 38sec. Novice: First and Third Trinity (Cambridge) II, 21min 17sec. Veteran: Wallingford and Upper Thames, 20min 48sec. Women: Quad Sculls: Open: Thames and Upper Thames, 20min 16sec. Coxless fours: Marlow III: Open: Marlow III, 20min 57sec. Coxed fours: Open: Cambridge University I, 21min 47sec. Senior two: Nottingham University I, 22min 43sec. Senior three: Lady Eleanor Holles B, 22min 32sec. Novice: Trinity Hall (Cambridge) IV, 24min 29sec.

TENNIS

TELFORD: Guardian Direct National Championships: Men: Singles: Final: T Henman (Oxon) bt G Rusedski (Unatt) 1-6, 6-3, 6-2. Doubles: Final: Bates and Henham bt M Maclagan (West of Scotland) and A Richardson (Unics) 6-3, 1-6, 13-11. Women: Singles: Final: C Wood (Sussex) bt S Smith (Essex) 6-2, 6-2.

PARIS: Men's Indoor Open Tournament: Final: P Sampras (US) bt B Becker (Ger) 7-6, 6-4, 6-4.

TOKYO: Men's Champions Tour Results: Singles: Final: J Connors (US) bt B Borg (Swe) 2-6, 6-2, 7-6. Doubles: Final: J McEnroe (US) and J Kriek (SA) bt B Borg and A Gomez (Ecu) 7-6, 6-0.

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA: Women's World Classic: Semi-finals: A Sugiyama (Jpn) bt L Davenport (US) default; M Maleeva (Bul) bt M J Fernandez (US) 5-7, 6-2, 6-4.

QUEBEC CITY: Women's Bell Challenge Tournament: Semi-finals: B Schultz-McCarthy (Holl) bt L Lee (US) 6-4, 6-7, 7-6. D Monami (Bel) bt R Stubbs (Aus) 6-2, 6-4.

RUGBY UNION

CIS Insurance tour match

Pontypridd	31	Fiji 13

Pontypridd: Tries: Manley, Phil John, S Lewis. Cons: Jenkins 2. Pens: Jenkins 4. Fiji. Tries: Ban, Rokotuiwwa. Pen: Waqa.

Courage Clubs Championship

First division

Bristol	33	Orrell 14

Bristol: Tries: Corry, Shaw, Thomas. Cons: Thomas 3. Pens: Thomas 3. Dropped goal: Thomas. Orrell: Try: Wynn. Pens: Mason 3.

Harlequins	25	Leicester 29

Harlequins: Tries: Mensah, O'Leary, Sheasby. Cons: Challinor 2. Pens: Challinor 2. Leicester: Tries: Underwood, penalty try. Cons: Lilley 2. Pens: Lilley 5.

Sale	18	Bath 30

Sale: Tries: Baxendell, Mallinder. Con: Lilley. Pens: Lilley 2. Bath: Tries: Callard, Lumsden 2. Cons: Callard 3. Pens: Callard 2.

Saracens	19	Gloucester 16

Saracens: Try: Gregory. Con: Lee. Pens: Lee 3. Dropped goal: Lee. Gloucester: Try: Windo. Con: T Smith. Pens: T Smith 2. Dropped goal: Kimber.

Wasps	24	West Hartlepool 16

Wasps: Tries: Hopley, Roger 2 penalty try. Cons: Gregory 2. West Hartlepool: Tries: Hodder, Stimpson. Pens: Sumpson 2.

(Match abandoned after 68 min, result subject to RFU inquiry)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bath	9	9	0	0	294	127	18
Leicester	9	8	0	1	217	100	16
Harlequins	9	6	0	3	213	177	12
Wasps	9	5	0	4	212	167	10
Bristol	9	5	0	4	176	209	10
Sale	9	4	0	5	164	161	8
Orrell	9	4	0	5	140	193	8
Saracens	9	3	0	6	132	247	6
Gloucester	9	1	0	8	132	217	2
West Hartlepool	9	0	0	9	134	216	0

(Includes Wasps v West Hartlepool which is subject to an RFU decision)

LEADING SCORERS: 139: J Lilley (Leicester, 1 try, 10 conversions, 37 penalty goals, 1 dropped goal). 136: J Callard (Bath, 3t, 23c, 25pg). 93: R Lilley (Sale; 1t, 8c, 22pg, 2dg) 88: T Simpson (West Hartlepool, 3t, 5c, 21pg) 87: S Mason (Orrell, 1t, 8c, 22pg) 74: D Pears (Harlequins; 10c, 11pg, 7dg) 67: R Andrew (Wasps, 5c, 16pg, 3dg). M Tainton (Bristol, 5c, 19pg) 62: A Lee (Saracens, 1t, 3c, 14pg, 3dg) Tries: 6: D O'Leary (Harlequins) 5: A Adebayo (Bath), J Guscott (Bath), A Lumsden (Bath).

Second division

Bedford	20	Nottingham 12

Bedford: Tries: Oliver, Roach. Cons: Finnie 2. Pens: Finnie 2. Nottingham: Tries: Ireland, Royer. Con: Hodgkinson.

Blackheath	9	Moseley 27

Blackheath: Pens: Howard 2. Dropped goal: Howard. Moseley: Tries: Hanson, Kerr. Con: Kerr. Pens: Kerr 2. Dropped goals: Bonney, Houston 2.

Newcastle	19	London Irish 23

Newcastle: Try: J Wilkinson. Con: Cramb. Pens: Cramb 4. London Irish: Try: Burns. Pens: Corcoran 5. Dropped goal: Flood.

Northampton	54	London Scottish 11

Northampton: Tries: Dawson, Phillips, Seely, Thorneycroft 2, Townsend 3. Cons: Grayson 7. London Scottish: Try: Sigmonn. Pens: Russell 2.

Wakefield	14	Waterloo 6

Wakefield: Try: Fallingham. Pens: Jackson 3. Waterloo: Pens: Emmett 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Northampton	9	9	0	0	474	100	18
London Scottish	9	7	1	1	193	150	15
London Irish	9	7	0	2	300	181	14
Moseley	9	5	0	4	143	164	10
Blackheath	9	3	1	5	162	240	7
Bedford	9	3	1	5	178	267	7
Waterloo	9	3	1	5	116	330	7
Wakefield	9	3	0	6	139	163	6
Nottingham	9	2	0	7	132	204	4
Newcastle	9	1	0	8	142	268	2

LEADING SCORERS: 164: M Corcoran (London Irish, 7 tries, 18 conversions, 31 penalty goals) 113: P Grayson (Northampton, 1t, 42c, 8pg) 83: S Howard (Blackheath 7c 13pg, 4 dropped goals). 78: A Finnie (Bedford 1t, 14c, 12pg, 3dg) 75: M Jackson (Wakefield, 9c, 19pg) 74: J Steele (London Scottish, 2t, 11c, 12pg, 2dg) 65: M Allen (Northampton 13) 64: S Hodgkinson (Nottingham, 5c, 17pg 1dg). A Kerr (Moseley, 4t, 4c, 10pg, 2dg) 60: G Seely (Northampton 12) Tries: 13: Allen 12: Seely 9: G Townsend (Northampton) 7: Corcoran, C O'Shea (London Irish).

Pilkington Cup

Third round

Bridlington	13	Winnington Park	17
Coventry	78	Stourbridge	20
Exeter	17	Redruth	15
Leeds	12	Fylde	6
Lewes	10	Camberley	40
London Welsh	27	Richmond	12
Macclesfield	35	Walsall	36
Met Police	10	Reading	27
Otley	31	Rugby	40
Tabard	17	Lydney	19
Weston-s-Mare	19	Henley	18
Worcester	24	Liverpool St H	8

Heineken League

First division

Ebbw Vale	24	Newbridge 12

Ebbw Vale: Tries: Hayward, Llewellyn, Price. Dropped goals: Hayward 3. Newbridge: Tries: Hawker, Reed. Con: Withers.

Llanelli	30	Bridgend 24

Llanelli: Tries: Boobyer, I Evans, John. Cons: Pearce 3. Pens: Pearce 2. Dropped goal: Pearce. Bridgend: Tries: A Jones, Bradshaw, M Lewis, N Jones. Cons: M Lewis 2.

Neath	63	Abertillery 17

Neath: Tries: Beukes 2, Boobyer 2, D Morris, Horgan, L Davies 3, Morgan, Winte. Cons: Beukes 2, P Williams 2.

صكذا من الاصل

Rachel Campbell-Johnston comes within an ace of mastering the devilish subtleties of real tennis

Anyone for a turn on the monastery roof?

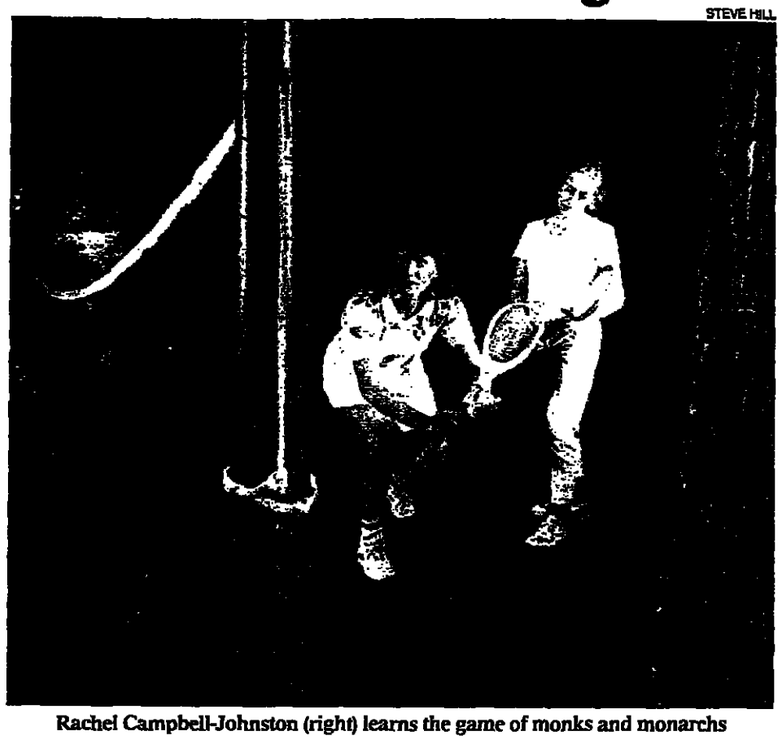
Real tennis is said to have begun in the monasteries of the 11th century, so since I spent most of my deformative years in a convent, I hoped that perhaps this curiously warped game might come naturally to me. After all, I had every sympathy with the bored young monks batting pebbles round their cloistered courtyards. And to find out that it is now known as "realers" is enough to rouse even the most otiose hockey-field heartiness.

The court still bears the traces of its monastic origins. Galleries run along one wall, and above them, round three sides of the court, is a sloping penthouse, a vestige of the cloister roof. A grille in one of the corners would once have served as a hatch through which jugs of mead were passed — to hit the ball into it is, unsurprisingly, to score an instant point.

But for most, real tennis is associated with Tudor kings, and in its gradual transition from cloister to court it has developed with all the bizarre idiosyncrasy of natural evolution. The rules of the game are nothing short of befuddling, and the subtleties of a chase, a point which is neither won nor lost but somehow held over until the end of the game, are complex even to one well tutored in the distinction between mortal and venial sin.

It is probably best to pick it up gradually as you go along. For those familiar with new-fangled "lawners" there are a few points of reference to cling on to. The court is the same size as a lawn tennis court, and there is a net, albeit a sagging one. The scoring system is more or less the same and the racket will be vaguely familiar — especially to those who grew up in the days of the Dunlop Maxply — although it is inconveniently small and its curious asymmetry has all the Darwinian peculiarity of the plaice which evolved with both eyes to one side of its head.

The balls look ordinary enough, but pick them up and they are alarmingly heavy, and their felt covering has suspiciously lumpy hand-stitched seams. Put one into play and it lands solidly on the stone-flagged floor like a bean-bag, before scudding off at unpredictable angles.



STEVE HILL

Rachel Campbell-Johnston (right) learns the game of monks and monarchs

You don't wait for the ball to come alongside you to hit it, but play it in front like a cricketer, with a stroke which bears little resemblance to the smooth topspin drive of lawn tennis. A sharp punch or a cut from beneath, up and down, is best. And if the ball does connect with the racket, it leaves it again with surprisingly little effort, its own momentum returning it.

SPORT FOR ALL

But the real delight for the beginner is the ordered chaos. Even the wildest shots can be in: balls sent winging through rafters, ricocheting off walls or hurtling along the penthouse can all come down and drop into court.

And as you get used to it, you recognise the game as something you have played before — the one with a tennis ball in the backyard when you batted it off the roof-tiles, scooped it from the gutters and thumped it off the wall, before losing it through the window.

Play a little longer and it dawns on you that this random, hazardous, exhausting sport is a battle of wits, of cunning strategies and stealthy execution — a cross between lawn tennis, squash and chess, I was told.

This is no grunting duel of bludgeoning forehands and powered aces. The softest underarm service trickles off the penthouse as irretrievably as a drifting leaf, and the gentlest ball sent glancing off the tambour, a jutting buttress on the side of the court, leaves the wiliest opponent hopelessly confused.

Yet a quaint gentility overlays this guile. A rally is misleadingly referred to as "a rest" and old-fashioned decorums are observed. "This is a game where you stoop to conquer," my instructor told me, and sinking to the ground with the reverence of a nobleman bowing to kiss a bishop's ring, she sent the ball skidding towards me.

This royal and ancient game is fatally addictive. James I, with assassins in hot pursuit, tried to flee down a drain, remembering only too late that he had earlier blocked it because too many balls had been going that way. Louis X of France caught a fatal chill after one particularly vigorous game, and his compatriot Charles VIII died after hitting his head on a lintel as he was going to watch a match. But Henry VIII just went on playing, refusing to stop even when news of Anne Boleyn's death came through.

HOW TO PLAY THE GAME

The ends are known as the service end and hazard, or receiver's end. The server may stand almost anywhere and his service must bounce on the servive penthouse beyond the halfway line, and land on the floor in the space at the receiver's end.

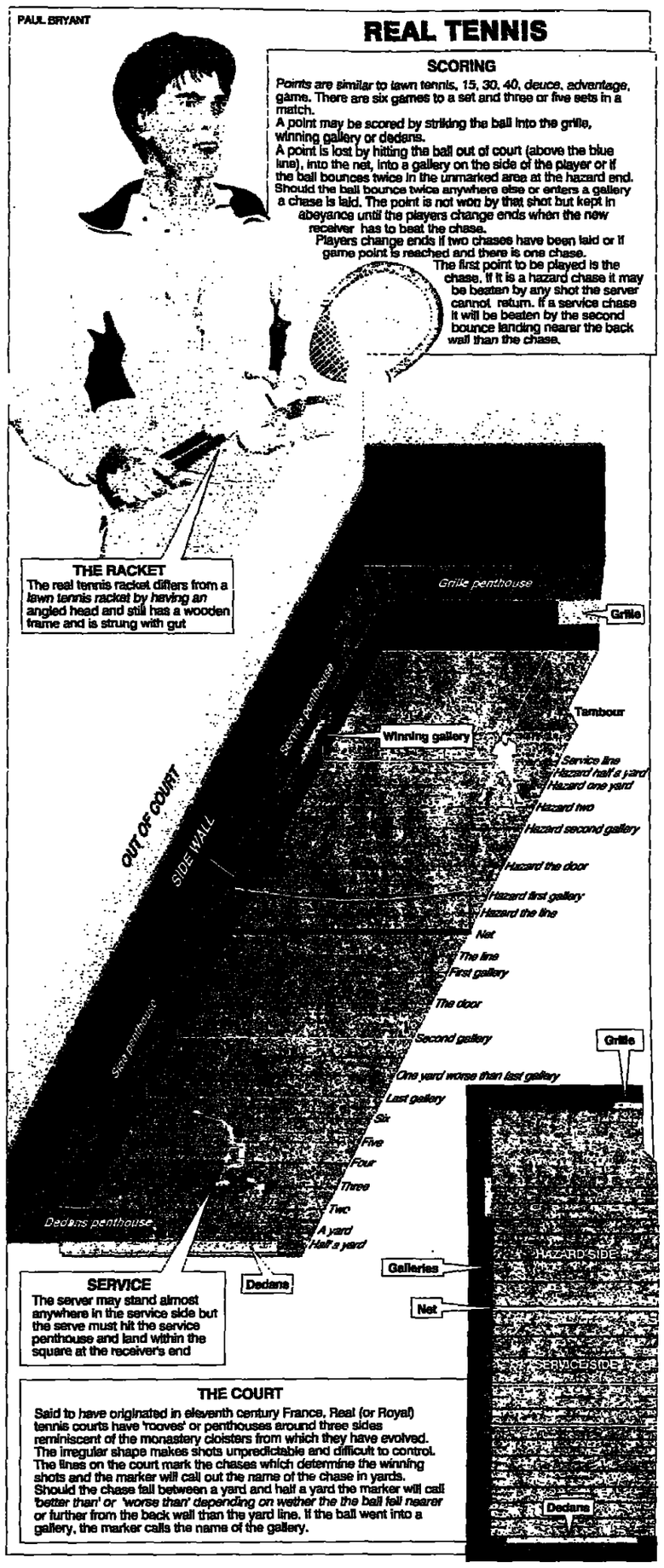
Scoring is similar to lawn tennis, (15, 30, 40, deuce, advantage, game) but the method of achieving a score is somewhat different.

A player scores a positive point by striking a ball into the grille, into the winning gallery at the hazard end, or into the dedans at the service end. A point is also scored if the ball bounces twice in the unmarked area of the court at the hazard end. A player loses a point if his ball goes out of court above the blue line, into the net or into one of the galleries on the player's side.

If the ball bounces twice in the marked area of the court or enters a gallery, a chase is called. The point is neither lost nor won, but saved up to the end of the game when ends are changed to play it off. The player who allowed the ball to bounce twice must now play a stroke better than the one that beat him, i.e. make the second bounce closer to the back wall than the chase. The lines on the floor mark where the ball bounces. The defender must judge whether or not to take the ball because if it beats the chase he loses the point, but if it looks as if the second bounce is going to be further away from the back wall than the chase, he can leave it and so win.

Service is not automatically alternated. The only way the receiver can regain the service is by making a chase.

Matches normally consist of the best of three or five sets, each set being the first to six.



SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

You are West. What would you lead from this hand?

♠J852 ♥— ♦A7543 ♣A986

This is the auction:

S	W	N	E
Pass	1♦	1 NT	4♦
4♥	Pass	Pass	Double
All pass			

I wouldn't open on the West hand. Marginal three-suited hands are often better described by an initial Pass, followed by a take-out double if the opponents bid your shortage. West compounded her poor opening bid with a disastrous lead — the ace of diamonds. This was the full deal.

Dealer South Love all 1MP's

	♠AK74 ♥AJ ♦KQ10 ♣J754	
♠J852 ♥— ♦A7543 ♣A986		♠— ♥Q9742 ♦J9862 ♣KQ2
	♠Q10963 ♥K108653 ♦— ♣103	

Contract: Four Hearts doubled, by South. Lead: Ace of Diamonds

The hand was played in the BBL Premier League match between Sowter and Casey. East (Michelle Handley) had done well to push North-South around with her Four Diamond bid, thus stopping them from finding their 5-4 spade fit. On a club or spade lead Four Hearts fails, but after a diamond lead the declarer (Brian Senior) was able to ruff, enter dummy with the ace of hearts and discard his two losing clubs on the king-queen of diamonds. Then he played the jack of hearts, and when that held, switched to the ace of spades. In the end all that East made was two trump tricks.

The reason the diamond ace is wrong is that West knows her partner has at least five diamonds, and that North is likely to have a double stopper in the suit. Hence it is extremely likely South will be void of diamonds: even if he has a singleton, it will still be better to attack in some other suit.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

MENSEFUL
a. Having a photographic memory
b. At the end of the month
c. Considerate

XENOGENOUS
a. Exogamous
b. Generous to strangers
c. From alien causes

BELLIBONE
a. The pubic bone
c. A stomacher
c. A beautiful woman

FRAMBOESIA
a. Forgetfulness
b. Addiction to berries
c. A nasty rash

Answers on page 41

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Howell wins

The second Owens-Corning tournament proved to be a success for international master James Howell, who finished a point clear of the field with 6.5/9. The following game is a typical example of Howell's accurate play.

White: Neffe
Black: Howell
Owens-Corning, Wrexham Maelor, October 1995
Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	d4	cxd4
3	c3	dxc3
4	Nxc3	Nc6
5	Nf3	d6
6	Bc4	a6
7	0-0	Nf6
8	h3	e6
9	Qe2	Be7
10	Rd1	Qc7
11	Bf4	Ne5
12	Bxe6	dxe5
13	Rac1	0-0
14	Bb3	Qb8
15	Na4	Nd7
16	Rxd7	Bxd7
17	Nb6	Bb5
18	Qc2	Bd6
19	e4	Bc6
20	Nxa8	Qxa8
21	Qd2	Rd8
22	Qg5	Bxe4
23	Nxe5	Qb8
24	Re1	Bxe5
25	Rxe4	Bxb2
26	Rb4	Rd4
27	Rxd4	Bxd4.
28	Qe7	g6
29	Kf1	Qf4

White resigns

FINAL SCORES

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1 Howell	*	+	1	+	1	1	+	0	1	1	6+
2 Cecm	+	*	+	+	+	+	+	1	+	1	9+
3 Pain	0	+	*	+	1	+	+	1	1	1	5+
4 Davies	+	+	+	*	+	+	+	1	1	1	5
5 McDonald	0	+	+	1	*	+	0	1	0	1	4+
6 Bronstein	0	+	0	+	+	*	+	1	+	1	4+
7 Elstrett	+	+	+	+	1	+	*	+	0	+	4+
8 Markhovsky	1	0	+	+	0	0	+	*	1	+	4
9 Hartman	0	+	0	0	1	+	1	0	*	+	3+
10 Nelis	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	*	1+

In the above table 1=win, +=draw and 0=loss

Staunton Society dinner

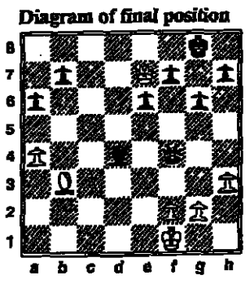
The annual dinner of the Staunton Society, the purpose of which is to honour Britain's greatest player of the 19th century, Howard Staunton, and raise money for a memorial to him at London's Kensal Green Cemetery, will be held this evening. It will be at Simpson's-in-the-Strand and if you wish to attend, please contact Barry Martin, the Hon Sec, on 0181 995 3516.

Times world championship book

All games of the world title match are now available with commentary by Raymond Keene in a Times book, World Chess Championship: Kasparov v Anand (Batsford £9.99). Credit card orders on 01376 327901 (please quote 5/655).

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

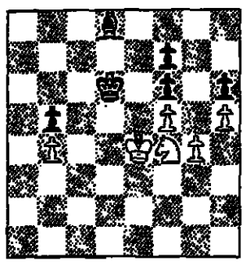
Diagram of final position



WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from a game where I was playing White in a recent simultaneous display. White has good chances to win, as the black pawns are weak and his bishop is restricted. Can you see the winning manoeuvre?



Solution on page 41

Converted to the real thing

Former world champion **Sally Jones** on the addictive power of the game

On the face of it, real tennis seems about as likely to become a "sport for all" as the Eton wall game. The game of kings and princes, from Henry VIII to Prince Edward, retains — to outsiders at least — much of its old elitist image and anachronistic charm. Fewer than 7,000 people worldwide play and compete regularly, most of them on Britain's 20 courts which are concentrated in the Home Counties, although there are also courts in Scotland, Newcastle, Manchester and the Midlands.

The rules, too, with their smattering of French terms like grille, dedans and tambour and picturesque phrases like "chase half-a-yard" and "hazard the door" appear to outsiders a byword for complexity, even though converts often become totally addicted within a couple of sessions.

In fact, over the past few years, real tennis, once an aristocratic gambling game, has undergone a great transformation and become far more democratic, ironically due partly to Prince Edward's growing involvement. Unlike the declining band of diehards who consider "realers" purely the preserve of a public school clique, and resent the influx of newcomers because of the extra pressure on court time, the Prince, who plays and competes regularly, has opened up the game, via a string of charity events and most recently a television series based on an international match between England and Australia, which he devised and presented.

His enthusiasm and the ensuing publicity have helped to draw hundreds of new recruits from all backgrounds. As if to rebut charges of exclusivity, the game's governing body, the Tennis and Rackets Association, now offers two free lessons to newcomers, and the sport's high profile has attracted a string of new sponsors for the men's international professional circuit and the predominantly amateur women's game.

Last season British Land became the game's biggest sponsor when George Wimpey bowed out, while TNT Express, Laurent-Perrier, BNB Resources and Cos d'Estournel are among the other blue-chip firms involved. The Laurent-Perrier Masters earlier this year attracted the strongest entry ever assembled for any championship, with the world's top eight players fighting it out for the richest prize in the game. The event even featured the novelty of corporate hospitality, with scores of bemused executives sipping the sponsor's product and listening while the top stars explained the finer points of the showcase matches in stage whispers.

One important spinoff has been a move to build and restore more courts. The existing centres are heavily oversubscribed and some, particularly Hampton Court, are often in play up to 18 hours a day. Prince Edward is backing a campaign for a second court at Hampton.



Watching a game at Falkland Palace, in Fife, in 1962

while over the past five years the first new courts this century have been built at the Oratory School, near Reading, and the Harbour Club, in Fulham.

The old Newmarket court has been exquisitely restored after decades of disuse and a new court is about to be built at Clifton College, in Bristol, thanks to a £250,000 grant from the National Lottery. The old court at Hyde House, Bridport is also due for restoration.

So how do you, as a newcomer, set about trying your hand at "realers"? Step one is to contact Brigadier Andrew Myrtle at the Tennis and Rackets Association, The Queen's Club, Palliser Road, London W14 9EQ (0171-386 3447) for details of your nearest court. You can then ring the professional and book a trial session. All you need are basic whites and tennis shoes. You can borrow a racket and will doubtless find several dozen hand-made, felt-covered balls nestling in the dedans awaiting your first foray. You will also find a warm welcome from the club regulars, who delight in making converts, confirming Prince Edward's view that "it's been a well-kept secret for far too long".

I had my first taste of real tennis nearly a decade ago, while writing a feature on Lesley Ronaldson, then British number one and now Britain's only woman professional at Hampton Court. The first few minutes seemed nightmarish, with the heavy ball skidding on the flagstoned floor and bouncing at bizarre angles off the buttresses, walls and porches while I scooped and volleyed as best I could, wondering why the experts decreed that it took ten years to make a player. *Only* ten years?

Suddenly a ball bounced more kindly and I attempted the "cut" (heavily sliced) shot that Lesley had described; scything down on it ferociously. By pure fluke, the ball skimmed low over the drooping net and died untouchably in the corner. It was a glorious moment and although I continued to hack, curse and mishit for the rest of the session, I knew that from then on I was hooked. Be warned, if you once step on to a real tennis court for even half an hour, it could take over your life.

Approximate costs of starting: Rackets, £80. Club annual subs: from £90 to £300. Initial lessons: from £8 to £20.

Vintage Crop preferred to Johnston's stayer in cup

Double Trigger faces stiff task

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT IN MELBOURNE

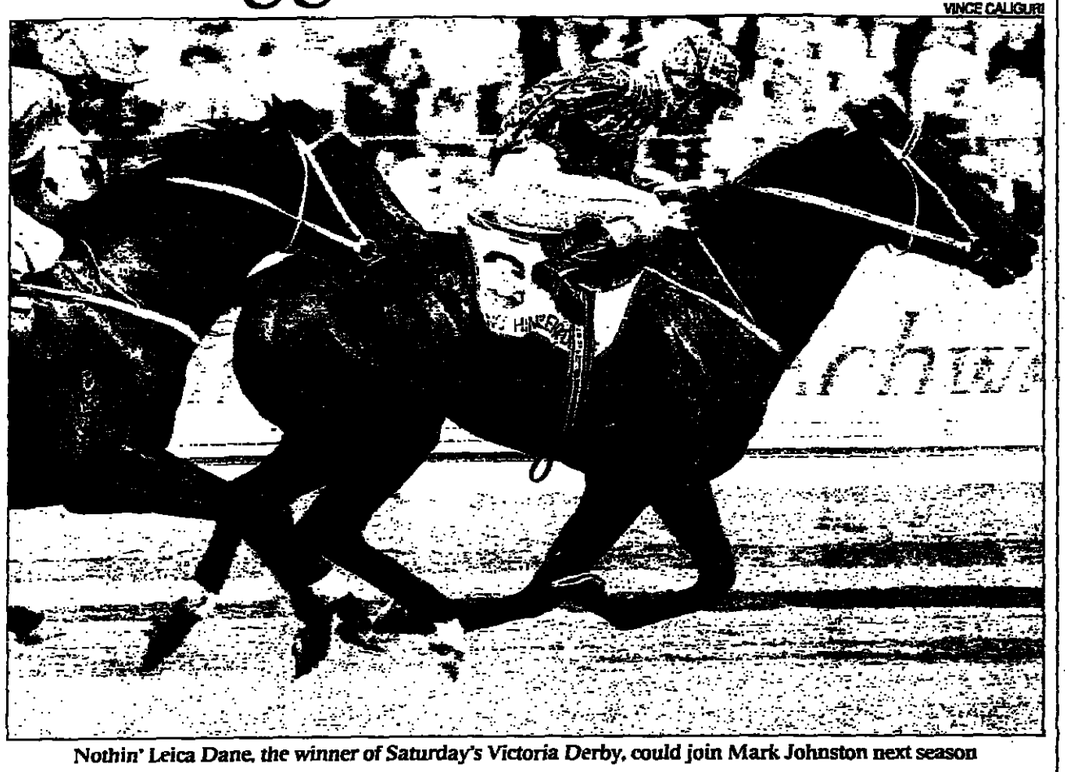
DOUBLE TRIGGER faces a daunting assignment when he attempts to defy top weight of 9st 7lb in the Melbourne Cup over two miles. For all his record-equalling achievements, the four-year-old has never before met stayers quite as rugged as he will encounter here tomorrow.

So unfavourable are the portents that it will require an effort of herculean proportions for him to reach the frame. He has the ability to scuttle his 22 opponents — a reproduction of his Gold Cup victory at Ascot would more than suffice — but this is a huge question to ask of a young stayer who has been vigorously campaigned

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: TAUTEN
(3.30 Folkestone)
Next best: Ground Game
(3.10 Southwell)

VINCE CALIGURI



Nothin' Leica Dane, the winner of Saturday's Victoria Derby, could join Mark Johnston next season

through the season. Realism, however unwelcome, must prevail over sentiment.

Britain's poor record in the Breeders' Cup is almost entirely attributable to our viewing the series as an afterthought to a successful domestic campaign. So it is with Double Trigger, a majestic galloper in midsummer but apparently a spent force in the Prix du Cadran six weeks ago.

Only the optimists will expect him to recapture that form after his 12,000-mile journey into the unknown. Then there is the inexperience of his jockey, Jason Weaver, having his first ride in Australia.

Double Trigger's best chance lies in his capacity to stretch the field with a sustained run for home. Yet the sweep into the Flemington straight comprises a 4½-furlong bend around which Double Trigger must attack the race — always assuming the likely fast pace allows him to be in a handy position at all. Add to that the fact that a physiotherapist has been attending to Double Trigger's back and you begin to appreciate the magnitude of his task.

Vintage Crop, by contrast, could easily go close to winning the prize for the second time in three years. Dermot Weld, his trainer, has the advantage of having supervised three previous challengers, and the signals from the Irish camp have all been positive.

Michael Kinane, who again rides Vintage Crop, has no greater incentive than to silence his vociferous Australian critics. After charting a wide course, Kinane was roundly condemned for the horse's seventh placing 12 months ago.

Weld's horse is taken to finish ahead of Double Trigger, although the latter's trainer, Mark Johnston, seems unlikely to leave Melbourne empty-handed. Johnston, whose willingness to support the multitude of promotional functions for the race, has been the perfect ambassador for Britain. Perhaps that is why he has been approached by the owners of Nothin' Leica Dane, who landed the Victoria Derby on Saturday, to prepare the three-year-old for a tilt at next year's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

Johnston has another opportunity to assess the horse when Nothin' Leica Dane opposes Double Trigger in the Melbourne Cup. Nothin' Leica Dane, who receives a useful weight-for-age allowance, already looks like a four-year-old and should run prominently.

Jeune, once trained by Geoff Wragg, finished fourth in the informative Mackinnon Stakes. He won last year's Melbourne Cup after a similar preparation but his reputation as a quirky individual remains very much in evidence.

Doriemus and Beaux Art are progressive horses who, with Vintage Crop and Dupain, can make their presence felt.

FLEMINGTON TOMORROW

4.20AM FOSTER'S MELBOURNE CUP (Handicap $960,891: 2m) (23 runners)

114 Double Trigger Trained by M Johnston 5-9-7 (ridden by J Weaver 544 Jeune P Hayes 7-9-4 (W Harris); 114 Vintage Crop D Weld 9-9-4 (M J Kinane); 200 The Phantom Chance J Wheeler 6-8-0 (R Marcus); 200 It's All In Fun J Wheeler 6-8-10 (S Seward); 321 Doriemus L Freedman 5-8-8 (D Oliver); 300 Stony Bay Miss G Waterhouse 4-8-7 (D Beadman); 202 Bullwinkle M Kent 5-8-5 (L Dettori); 402 Count Chivas D Selwood 5-8-5 (R Griffiths); 056 Dascha J Meagher 6-8-5 (B Prebble); 300 Desert Chill S Leming 6-8-5 (C Munce); 001 Double Take R Dowling 7-8-5 (J Duham); 665 Gossips L Corstens 5-8-3 (A Matthews); 023 Quick Ransom L Freedman 5-8-3 (M Dittman); 303 Sir Kingi N Eales 7-8-3 (P Hutchinson); 025 Few Are Chosen Miss G Waterhouse 5-8-2 (L Cassidy); 120 Yes Indeed R Crowley 6-8-2 (R Caddigan); 610 Storm L Freedman 5-8-1 (G Hall); 003 Beaux Art D Edwards 4-9-0 D Taggart); 321 Coachwood L Freedman 5-7-11 (B York); 192 Dupain A Bell 4-7-8 (S Baster); 004 Electronic Miss G Waterhouse 5-7-10 (G Boss); 111 Nothin' Leica Dane Miss G Waterhouse 3-7-6 (S Dye)

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

1.10 D'naan. 1.40 Father Dan. 2.10 Hasta La Vista. 2.40 Jigsaw Boy. 3.10 Ground Game. 3.40 Nutcracker. 4.10 Rood Music.

Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.10 D'NAAN.
Newmarket Correspondent: 3.10 Ground Game.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW BEST SIS

1.10 MIDWAY MAIDEN STAKES
(Div I: 2-Y-O: £3,818: 1m) (13 runners)

1	(2)	0	BELLE'S BOY 28 S Pilling 9-0	T Sprake	–
2	(1)		CRYSTAL FAST P Kelleway 9-0	M Rimmer	–
3	(3)	0305	D'NAAN 19 (B) W Haggas 9-0	T Ives	88
4	(4)	4	GOLD KICKER 36 M Pipe 9-0	A Clark	83
5	(5)		MORI'S DEED C Nell 9-0	L Newton (5)	–
6	(11)	00	MARSAYAS 6 M Camacho 9-0	L Charnock	88
7	(10)		MILTON P Cole 9-0	R Hughes	–
8	(12)		RED RUSTY D Haines 9-0	S Dawes	–
9	(9)	0	SNOWY DOMINO 24 J Jellyman 9-0	K Fallon	–
10	(3)		WATER CHESTNUT Mrs N Macauley 9-0	Amanda Sanders (7)	–
11	(8)	05	WHITLEY GRANGE BOY 30 J Eyre 9-0	R Lappin	83
12	(7)	050	WHOTHEHELLISHARRY 68 J Berry 9-0	S D Williams	71
13	(15)	0600	LUNAR GIRL 13 J Banks 8-9	J Stack (3)	80

4-5 D'Naan, 7-2 Milton, 5-1 Gold Kicker, 10-1 Crystal Fast, Whitley Grange Boy, 12-1 Ivor's Deed, 16-1 others.

1.40 MARIANA LIMITED STAKES
(£2,519: 1m 3f) (14)

1	(7)	0600	JUST FLAMENCO 27 (F,S) M Ryan 4-9-7	R Hughes	81
2	(1)	0001	OUR MAIN MAN 154 (D,S) R Whitaker 5-9-7	Dale Gibson	84
3	(3)	2141	RIVAL BID 13 (C,D,F,G,S) Mrs M Macauley 7-9-7	Amanda Sanders (7)	–
4	(5)	1453	FATHER DAN 31 (D,F,S) Miss G Kelleway 6-9-5	K Fallon	87
5	(9)	0040	GREEK GOLD 16 (CD,G) D Nicholls 6-9-3	M Tebbutt	79
6	(14)	00-0	SEA GOD 19 M Chapman 4-9-3	C Mendoza (7)	–
7	(2)	6240	TEMPERING 194 (CD,F,G) D Chapman 5-9-3	A Culhane	88
8	(10)	0603	LADY HIGHFIELD 27 (F) M Ryan 4-9-2	A Clark	91
9	(12)	4562	DIAMOND MARKET 9 R Hollinshead 3-8-11	T Ives	83
10	(5)	5340	IGROV PROTEGE 10 (C,G) H Collingridge 3-8-11	M Rimmer	79
11	(13)	0000	PC'S CRUISER 11 (C,G) J Eyre 3-8-11	R Lappin	81
12	(6)	6540	INSTANTANEOUS 25 (D,F,G) M H Easterby 3-8-10	L Newton (5)	84
13	(4)	4020	H'ARI 23 W Haggas 3-8-6	D McKeown	96
14	(11)	0-00	LARCH KEY LADY 51 M Johnston 3-8-6	T Williams	80

5-1 Royal Bid, 7-1 Diamond Market, Lady Highfield, 8-1 Greek Gold, 10-1 Our Main Man, Instantaneous, 12-1 others.

2.10 BOUNTY AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP
(£3,417: 1m 6f) (17)

1	(1)	3440	KADRI 139 (G) J Bosley 4-11-7	Mrs S Bosley	84
2	(3)	0000	FIVE TO SEVEN 4 (C,G,S) D Thornton 9-11-4	S Sellers	83
3	(7)	0145	ELPIDA 22 (G) J Pearce 3-11-7	Miss L Pearce	93
4	(12)	-500	MRS JAWLEYFORD 248J (C,G) C Smith 7-11-0	Mrs M Moses (5)	90
5	(15)	3134	STALLED 109 (BF,F,G,S) P Walwyn 5-10-9	Miss Grace Blackford (5)	94
6	(12)	00-6	ASSESSER 40 Lady Herries 3-10-3	P Pritchard-Gordon	95
7	(9)	3100	HANDMAIDEN 78 (C,S) A Hanson 5-10-8	Mrs D Haslewell	91
8	(14)	3000	LONE RISK 17J (G,S) C Allen 4-10-7	V Lukaniuk (5)	90
9	(5)	4022	SOCIANA 21 (F,S) B Flower 5-10-5	R Johnson	95
10	(8)	0353	HASTA LA VISTA 24 (B,C,F,G) M W Easterby 5-10-5	C Baxter	97
11	(13)	2353	UAB 15J (S,CD,G) J Peacock 5-10-3	Mr H Haughton	90
12	(11)	5500	PHILMIST 25 (B,C,G) W Elsey 3-10-2	Miss A Elsey	96
13	(10)	0-05	SUSSEX 24 J Jefferson 4-10-1	W Worrison (5)	93
14	(6)	-005	FAIR AND FIRSTY 18 D Nicholls 4-9-9	Mrs A Perrett	93
15	(2)	1133	GREEK NIGHT OUT 21 (F,S) J Eyre 4-9-8	Miss Dana Jones	98
16	(16)	DQP	GRAYTHER HOMES 21 S Alzoa 5-9-5	Mrs A Farrell	90
17	(8)	60	PHAHAN 39 (F,G) B Peacock 9-9-5	Mrs C Peacock (5)	–

5-1 Hasta La Vista, 6-1 Sociana, 8-1 Elpida, Sussex, Greek Night Out, 10-1 Stalled, Lone Risk, 12-1 others.

1.20 COCKER HOOP NOVICES CHASE
(£3,087: 2m 4f 110yd) (5)

1	-23U	EAST HOUSTON 30 (G) J J O'Neill 6-11-0	M Dwyer	
2	P34-	GYMCRAK GAMBLE 15 (R) T Dyer 7-11-0	A Dobbin	
3	P34-	PETER 205 D Williams 7-11-0	B Harding (3)	
4	-560	TO BE THE BEST 9 D Lamb 5-11-0	Mr A Manners (7)	
5	50U-	JUST MOLLY 163 W Reed 8-10-9	T Reed	

5-4 East Houston, 2-1 Gymcrak Gamble, 5-1 Peter 7-1 To Be The Best, Just Molly

1.50 CUMBERLAND ALE HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,248: 3m 110yd) (6)

1	0P/	TALLYWAGGER 580 (D,F,G) G Moore 8-12-0	J Callaghan	
2	22-3	MONARU 16 (CD,BF,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 9-11-11	G Lee (3)	
3	6-13	ADRIEN 11 (B,CD,BF,F,S) Mrs S Bramall 7-11-5	Mr K Whelan (5)	
4	04P-	GREAT MAX 165 (S) C Parker 6-10-13	B Storey	
5	0-43	NOW YOUNG MAN 8 (BF,F,G) Mrs A Swinbank 6-10-11	J Railton	
6	42-5	EXEMPLAR 9 (C,F) Mrs S Smith 7-10-11	R Guest	

5-2 Now Young Man, 11-4 Adrien, 4-1 Monaru, 5-1 Great Max, 6-1 Exemplar, 10-1 Tallywagger

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Carlisle: 12.50 Classic Crest. Folkestone: 1.00 Miss Roberto 3.00 Ballestro Southwell: 1.10 D'naan. 2.10 Philmist. 3.40 Dragonroy, Hurricane Horn, Ricochet, Shanoora. 3.40 Sphinx Levelv. 4.10 Northern Trove.

2.40 FYFFES OF NOTTINGHAM HANDICAP
(£4,104: 6f) (16)

1	(4)	0300	WHITE SORREL 53 (CD,G) A Harrison 4-10-6	J Stack (3)	92
2	(6)	0600	SIR TASKER 7 (C,D,F,G) J L Harris 7-9-13	D Sweeney (7)	87
3	(7)	2480	LEIGH CROFTER 18 (B,D,F,G,S) P Cundell 6-9-12	D Griffiths (5)	88
4	(1)	5000	BROADSTAIRS BEAUTY 26 (CD,F,G,S) S Bowring 5-9-11	S D Williams	90
5	(10)	1013	BERGE 12 (B,CD,G) W O'Gorman 4-9-10	Emma O'Gorman	89
6	(3)	0000	NORDICO PRINCESS 18 (CD,G) M Bridger 4-9-6	K Fallon	86
7	(9)	0000	BOLD STREET 36 (B,D,G,S) A Bailey 5-9-4	D Wright (3)	83
8	(5)	0620	AT THE SAVOY 79 (B,CD,G) T Barron 4-9-3	Kim Tinkler (7)	88
9	(12)	4265	SILK COTTAGE 2 R Whitaker 3-8-13	A Culhane	98
10	(16)	2000	SUE ME 20 (D,S) W Mair 3-8-12	T Ives	96
11	(15)	0200	LA PETITE FUSEE 20 (D,G) R O'Sullivan 4-8-10	R Hughes	92
12	(2)	5033	HICKORY BLUE 12 (D,F) Mrs M Macauley 5-8-10	Amanda Sanders (7)	97
13	(11)	6009	DEEPLY VALE 27 (S) G L Moore 4-8-10	A Clark	96
14	(8)	050	BARRANAK 27 Mrs M McCourt 3-8-9	R Studholme (7)	91
15	(14)	5042	JIGSAW BOY 9 (D,BF,F,S) P Murphy 6-8-9	S Drowne (3)	91
16	(13)	5300	YOUNG BENSON 18 B McMahon 3-8-8	Dale Gibson	97

4-1 Jigsaw Boy, 6-1 Hickory Blue, 7-1 Berge, 8-1 Bold Street, Leigh Crofter, Silk Cottage, 10-1 Sir Tasker, 12-1 others.

3.10 MIDWAY MAIDEN STAKES
(Div II: 2-Y-O: £3,818: 1m) (12)

1	(5)	0600	ALZOTIC 21 S Norton 9-0	K Fallon	82
2	(11)	48	COLWAY BRIDGE 23 Mrs M Reveley 9-0	A Culhane	86
3	(3)	6	DOUBLE DASH 35 M Johnston 9-0	T Williams	91
4	(4)		MAESTRO TIME T Barron 9-0	D McKeown	–
5	(12)	0	OSSANS 85 J Fitzgerald 9-0	T Ives	–
6	(7)		TABATAY M Camacho 9-0	L Charnock	–
7	(9)	3258	TWO SOCKS 21 M McCormack 9-0	J Stack (3)	96
8	(6)		CONTRARIE M Ryan 8-9	A Clark	–
9	(10)	3	GROUND GAME 24 D Loder 8-9	R Hughes	83
10	(8)	5	KISSING GATE 28 R Charlton 8-9	T Sprake	88
11	(1)	0	RAIN CLOUD 28 W Haigh 8-9	Dale Gibson	77
12	(2)	04	SIS GARDEN 7 M H Easterby 8-9	M Rimmer	98

5-4 Ground Game, 5-2 Kissing Gate, 6-1 Contrarie, 8-1 Two Socks, 10-1 others.

3.40 BONIN SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,331: 7f) (16)

1	(15)	1800	TISKA TICKA TIMING 37 (C,G) B Murray 9-2	M Dwyer (7)	89
2	(13)	0000	DRAGONJOY 9 (B) J Payne 8-11	A McGlone	82
3	(1)	00	GUNNER B SPECIAL 56 S Bowring 8-11	C Teague (5)	–
4	(9)	0000	HURRICANE HORN 9 (B) W Muir 8-11	M Rimmer	85
5	(14)	5500	ORANGE AND BLUE 60 (B,F) Miss J Craze 8-11	S Webster	85
6	(16)	6660	RICHARD HOUSE LAD 9 (BF) R Hollinshead 8-11	T Ives	82
7	(4)	00	RICOCHET 51 (B) S Norton 8-11	D McKeown	–
8	(3)	606	RIGHTEOUS GENT 9 (B) K McAuliffe 8-11	R Hughes	84
9	(12)	66	ROB'S GEM 116 W Haigh 8-11	Dale Gibson	80
10	(6)	0006	SHAHRORA 22 (B,C,G) B Pilling 8-11	T Sprake	86
11	(17)	6300	SPHINX LEVELV 56 (V) A James 8-11	D Wright (3)	89
12	(8)	0	EMBROIDERED 9 M Prescott 8-6	C Nutter	–
13	(10)	09	HANNAHS BAY 34 M Meagher 8-6	K Fallon	–
14	(2)	640	NUTCRACKER 33 C Booth 8-6	N Kennedy	88
15	(7)	0	ROCKET GROUNDS 34 J Quinn 8-6	A Culhane	80
16	(5)	6	THE FULLBANGLADESH 7 J Eyre 8-6	R Lappin	89

4-1 Righteous Gent, 5-1 Rocket Grounds, 6-1 The Fullbangladesh, 7-1 others.

4.10 SOLOMAN HANDICAP (£2,519: 1m) (16)

1	(4)	-4230	HAWAII STORM 283 (CD,G,S) D Flinch Davis 7-10-0	A Procter (5)	90
2	(16)	5600	BEAUMAN 40 (D,S) P Evans 5-10-0	R Hughes	85
3	(12)	3315	EASTLEIGH 191 (C,D,G,S) R Hollinshead 6-9-13	T Ives	92
4	(14)	0006	ROOD MUSIC 4 (D,F) M Meagher 4-9-13	K Fallon	97
5	(1)	00-1	SARACEN PRINCE 9 (D,G) P Kelleway 3-9-13	J Stack (3)	94
6	(2)	0300	KOMMANATE 28 S Bowring 3-9-13	C Teague (5)	89
7	(3)	0302	EXCLUSIVE ASSEMBLY 94 (C,G) A James 2-9-12	L Newton (5)	98
8	(11)	0000	LADY SILK 9 (C,G,S) Miss J Craze 4-9-12	S Webster	88
9	(6)	0000	NORTHERN TROVE 6 (B) R Thompson 3-9-12	T Williams	90
10	(10)	5400	ACTION JACKSON 12 B McMahon 3-9-12	M Rimmer	96
11	(5)	30-0	VOCAL COMMAND 23 (G) W Haigh 3-9-11	Dale Gibson	91
12	(9)	-000	NORTH ESK 18 (D,F,G) C Dwyer 5-9-11	C Dwyer	91
13	(7)	000	SHAREOFTHEACTION 37 (V,C,G) Mrs A Haughton 4-9-9	V Halliday	97
14	(13)	3440	NOBBY BARNES 13 (CD,F,G) E Inoira 6-9-8	Kim Tinkler	92
15	(8)	0420	TAA GEORGEY 55 (D,S) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-8	S D Williams	88
16	(15)	0048	LUCKY TUCKY 124 (D,G) J Jenkins 4-9-8	A McGlone	94

4-1 Saracen Prince, 5-1 Exclusive Assembly, 6-1 Eastleigh, 8-1 North Esk, Hawaii Storm, 10-1 Lucky Tucky, 12-1 Nobby Barnes, 16-1 others.

CARLISLE

THUNDERER

12.50 Mister Muddypaws. 1.20 Gymcrak Gamble. 1.50 Adrien. 2.20 Romany Creek. 2.50 Highland Park. 3.20 Pats Minstrel. 3.50 Adamatic.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS

12.50 HEINEKEN NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,136: 3m 110yd) (6 runners)

1	41-2	MISTER MUDDYPAWS 47 (F) J Johnson 5-11-6 — A Maguire
2	0	ANNSWAY 10 J C Tuck 5-11-0 — R McGrath (7)
3	2-24	CLASSIC CREST 15 (S) G Moore 5-11-0 — N Bentley
4	606-	KINGS MINSTREL 209 C Lamb 5-11-0 — Mr A Manners (7)
5	/60-	SELF IMPORTANT 364 C Nolan 10-11-0 — T Reed
6	PP0-	TWICE WEEKLY 279 F Jordan 6-10-9 — T Jardine (7)

3-5 Mister Muddypaws, 7-2 Classic Crest, 6-1 Annsway, 12-1 others.

1.20 COCKER HOOP NOVICES CHASE
(£3,087: 2m 4f 110yd) (5)

1	-23U	EAST HOUSTON 30 (G) J J O'Neill 6-11-0	M Dwyer	
2	P34-	GYMCRAK GAMBLE 15 (R) T Dyer 7-11-0	A Dobbin	
3	P34-	PETER 205 D Williams 7-11-0	B Harding (3)	
4	-560	TO BE THE BEST 9 D Lamb 5-11-0	Mr A Manners (7)	
5	50U-	JUST MOLLY 163 W Reed 8-10-9	T Reed	

5-4 East Houston, 2-1 Gymcrak Gamble, 5-1 Peter 7-1 To Be The Best, Just Molly

1.50 CUMBERLAND ALE HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,248: 3m 110yd) (6)

1	0P/	TALLYWAGGER 580 (D,F,G) G Moore 8-12-0	J Callaghan	
2	22-3	MONARU 16 (CD,BF,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 9-11-11	G Lee (3)	
3	6-13	ADRIEN 11 (B,CD,BF,F,S) Mrs S Bramall 7-11-5	Mr K Whelan (5)	
4	04P-	GREAT MAX 165 (S) C Parker 6-10-13	B Storey	
5	0-43	NOW YOUNG MAN 8 (BF,F,G) Mrs A Swinbank 6-10-11	J Railton	
6	42-5	EXEMPLAR 9 (C,F) Mrs S Smith 7-10-11	R Guest	

5-2 Now Young Man, 11-4 Adrien, 4-1 Monaru, 5-1 Great Max, 6-1 Exemplar, 10-1 Tallywagger

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Carlisle: 12.50 Classic Crest. Folkestone: 1.00 Miss Roberto 3.00 Ballestro Southwell: 1.10 D'naan. 2.10 Philmist. 3.40 Dragonroy, Hurricane Horn, Ricochet, Shanoora. 3.40 Sphinx Levelv. 4.10 Northern Trove.

2.20 JENNINGS BREWERY LUCIUS CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£4,401: 3m) (6)

1	1P-5	MERRY MASTER 26 (CD,F,G,S) A Harrison 11-12-0	Mr M Armytage	
2	11-2	COUNTORUS 31 (D,F,G,S) J Johnson 9-10-13	A Maguire	
3	24-4	BOARDING SCHOOL 158 (F,G,S) C Parker 8-10-9	B Storey	
4	14-5	NIMFA 16 (CD,F,G,S) G Richards 7-10-9	A Dobbin	
5	3-22	ROMANY CREEK 11 (N,D,F,G,S) G Balding 6-10-2	A P McCoy	
6	6363	RUSTY BLADE 16 (D,G) P Monteith 6-10-0	B Harding (3)	

7-4 Romany Creek, 5-2 Ninfa, 3-1 Countorus, 5-1 Boarding School, 7-1 others.

2.50 SNECK-LIFTER NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,052: 2m 4f 110yd) (6)

1	/PS-	STRICTLY PERSONAL 332 M Barnes 5-11-10	A Maguire	
2	3-63	EXPLORE MONDIAL 15 T Dyer 4-11-8	L Wyer	
3	06-3	RED ERON 31 G Holmes 4-11-3	M Dwyer	
4	45-1	HIGHLAND PARK 15 (D,F) R Craggs 8-10-12	A Dobbin	
5	/52-	GYMCRAK CYRANO 366 H Chamberlain 6-10-10	B Storey	
6	/00-	ULTRAKAY 185 J Haynes 5-10-0	M Moloney	

9-4 Highland Park, 5-2 Explore Mondial, 3-1 Gymcrak Cyano, 6-1 others.

3.20 JENNINGS BITTER HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,355: 2m) (4)

1	3-41	PATS MINSTREL 28 (B,D,F,G,S) R Champion 10-11-10	M A Fitzgerald	
2	-415	FLASH OF REALM 9 (D,F,G,S) P Monteith 8-11-4	A Dobbin	
3	1F-0	RAPID MOVER 44 (B,D,F,S) D Nolan 8-10-10	P Carberry	
4	045-	STRONG APPROACH 180 (CD,G,S) J Charlton 10-10-9	B Storey	

Evens Pats Minstrel, 5-2 Flash Of Realm, 7-2 Strong Approach, 5-1 Rapid Mover

3.50 JENNINGS DARK MILD STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,319: 2m 1f) (14)

1	2-	ADAMATIC 172 R Allan 4-11-2	S Melrose (7)	
2	0	BOWLANDS COUNTRY 15 G Moore 4-11-2	N Bentley	
3		CASTLE RED J Wade 4-11-2	K Jones	
4	322-	CHOPWELL CURTAINS 219 M H Easterby 5-11-2	L Wyer	
5	2-	DILLONS BRIDGE 177 J J O'Neill 6-11-2	A Roche (3)	
6	0-0	DURHAM GLINT 15 J Hethers 4-11-2	A Thornton	
7	00-	KOLTULLA 364 Mrs S Smith 5-11-2	R Guest	
8		LORD RULLAH J Wade 4-11-2	D Ryan (7)	
9	0	MAJOR SIOUX 47 C Thornton 4-11-2	D Wilkinson	
10	U0P-	PAINT YOUR WAGON 235 N Chamberlain 5-11-2	J Supple (3)	
11		RASIN TROUBLE R Craggs 4-11-2	N Smith	
12	040-	SKIDDAW ROCK 203 Mrs M Reveley 5-11-2	R Hodge	
13		YOUNG KENNY P Beaumont 4-11-2	B Bratton (7)	
14		SHEER GIFT J Bennett 6-10-11	A Jones	

2-1 Dillons Bridge, 11-4 Chopwell Curtains, 6-1 Skiddaw Rock, 8-1 others.

Melbourne's verve shames staid Epsom

JULIAN MUSCAT



Racing commentary

Like the launch of a satellite, the lead-up to the Melbourne Cup is counted down to a crescendo of excitement. Four days to go, three days, two days, one day: we are less than 24 hours from the 135th running of an event that brings Australia to a standstill. It is little wonder that British racing officials have trekked to Melbourne in search of its elixir.

Tristram Ricketts, chief executive of the British Horseracing Board, has experienced the sensation at first hand. He might claim otherwise, but, as Ricketts inhaled the atmosphere around him, he will have sensed an enthusiasm sadly lacking from our own Derby. It seems an eternity since the Derby was contested on a public holiday; when Parliament took a recess to lead convoys snaking the lanes from London to Epsom.

Of course, the Melbourne carnival possesses in abundance what British racing lacks, and that is money. Countless essays have been written on the merit of their betting structure; of private bookmakers confined to racecourses and an off-course Tote monopoly. The mechanism allows the Victoria Racing Club to finance an A$6 million prize-money bonanza over four days.

It also helps that, in this vast land, races from far-flung corners are beamed into the state to maximise betting opportunities. In addition to a scintillating card at Flemington on Saturday, when a record 60,404 attended Derby Day, punters could bet on 52 races televised live between 12.05 and 5.50.

Yet that is not the point. Prize-money can buy the support of owners and trainers but not the public's enthusiasm. What, therefore, can those charged with reviving the Derby learn from the Melbourne experience? Or to be more accurate, can "Cup Fever" be transplanted 12,000 miles from Melbourne to Epsom? Well, perhaps London's shopkeepers can be arm-twisted into dressing up their windows. Perhaps London's fleet of taxi drivers will inquire of your tip. Perhaps London's hotels will host Melbourne Cup-style parties. Perhaps London's inhabitants will revert to swelling the Downs on Derby day. But will this do the trick?

The answer is no. It is the difference between the old and the new. The Derby is almost 100 years older than the Melbourne Cup — and it shows. And, whereas Melbourne is a thriving, sports-mad city, Epsom is a London suburb too far removed for the capital's attentions.

Last year marked a belated effort from Racecourse Holdings Trust to integrate Epsom into the Derby spirit. With hindsight, it was foolish for the Derby's organisers to ignore the wishes of the people of Epsom. As a result, Epsom's residents and shopkeepers have developed an antipathy towards the Derby. The atmosphere, rather than light and festive, has become dull and listless.

But a worse indictment is the old and familiar British failing of complacency. It goes as follows: the Derby is the world's greatest horse race: it will always be so. The Derby is an institution: it will always be so. Consider how that attitude has undermined a once-proud sporting landmark. As other racing showpieces go from strength to strength, where, now, for the Epsom Derby?

FOLKESTONE

THUNDERER

1.00 Brecon — 2.30 Beamaise
1.30 Comic Fantasy — 3.00 Deceit The Second
2.00 Last But Not Least — 3.30 Night Edition
4.00 LIDHAMA (nap)

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 1.00 Jerry Cutrona. 1.30 PIVOTAL (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

1.00 CUTLASS NURSERY HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £3,617: 6f 189yd) (16 runners)

101	(12)	433	EUROBOX BOY 14 (H Cavendish) A Jarvis 9-8	J Tate	89
102	(16)	6302	AL'S ALIBI 21 (The Sussex Stud Ltd) W Muir 9-7	J Reid	93
103	(9)	346000	GALAPINO 16 (The Dalyspring Company Ltd) C Britain 9-5	M Henry (5)	93
104	(6)	42030	CASTAN 18 (J Hartnett) J Dunlop 9-4	S Whitworth	92
105	(5)	631001	WORLDWIDE ELSIE 14 (D,F,G) (T Dawson) R Harris 9-3	A Mackay	94
106	(2)	000	SOLDIER MAN 12 (I Low) A Hide 9-2	W Woods	86
107	(3)	500	MONTECRISTO 27 (Lord Matthews) R Guest 9-0	E Guest	92
108	(14)	650	SILENT GUEST 17 (E Rimmer) M Prescott 9-0	G Duffield	88
109	(8)	43456	BRECON 16 (D Dea) P Cole 8-11	T Quinn	98
110	(1)	6004	KNAVE 14 (Cheveley Park Stud) R Hannon 8-10	Dane O'Neill (5)	94
111	(4)	000	BEE GEE TEE 27 (J Tindall) J Akehurst 8-9	W Newnes	86
112	(15)	666	MISS ROBERTO 11 (B) (Mrs M McCourt) Mrs M McCourt 8-6	M Fenton	80
113	(10)	040032	JERRY CUTRONA 6 (BF) (M Hill) N Callaghan 8-6	A Whelan (5)	89
114	(7)	0606	GET TOUGH 37 (Gray Boys Racing) S Dow 8-6	A Daly (7)	86
115	(13)	200050	DURALOCK FENCER 16 (Duralock (UK) Ltd) P Murphy 8-3	R Waterfield (7)	98
116	(11)	00400	PRIDE OF KASHMIR 23 (The New Recruits) P Harris 8-0	F Norton	90

BETTING: 7-2 Jerry Cutrona, 5-1 Eurobox Boy, 6-1 Worldwide Elsie, 7-1 Al's Alibi, 8-1 Brecon, 10-1 others.
1994: MISTER FIRE EYES 9-6 B Doyle (14-1) C Britain 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

EUROBOX BOY 3l and neck 3rd of 9 to Alfawa in maiden at Lingfield (7f, good). AL'S ALIBI short-head 2nd of 14 to Ageab in maiden auction over course and distance (good) WORLDWISE ELSIE beat Daunting Destiny 1l in 12-runner nursery at Leicester (7f, firm) with KNAVE (6lb better off) neck and 1¼l 4th. BRECON about 2¼l 6th of 19 to Proud Monk in nursery at Newbury (7f 64yd, good to soft) with DURALOCK FENCER ¾l 7th. JERRY CUTRONA head 2nd of 16 to Daunting Destiny in nursery at Redcar (1m, firm). Selection: WORLDWISE ELSIE (nap)

1.30 EPEE CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £5,493: 5f) (9 runners)

201	(6)	01	PIVOTAL 7 (F) (Cheveley Park Stud) M Prescott 9-2	G Duffield	96
202	(7)	02201	SINGING PATRIARCH 24 (F) (P Whitfield) J Dunlop 9-2	T Quinn	88
203	(4)	302056	ARCTIC ROMANCER 16 (D,G) (A Al Khalifa) G Lewis 9-0	A Whelan (5)	85

هكذا من الاصل

Eureka! Secret of successful angling revealed

Brian Clarke points out that if at first you don't succeed, you could well be in for a long, frustrating day

I have a tip. I think it is a very good tip. It is exactly the kind of tip that the angling readers of this newspaper have a right to expect from time to time.

This tip — some, I dare say, would call it a breakthrough — is a simple, confidence-boosting measure which could ease the pressure on difficult days and that could, perhaps, turn what might have been a blank day into a beano. It has the special virtue of being based on hard-won experience. It came to me recently after two angling writers, fishing together, had a difficult day.

Apparently — and I had not realised this — some angling writers do not spend their entire time by the waterside, reeling in whoppers. Some of them — I imagine the number must be very few — apparently struggle sometimes, like everyone else. And that is what these two had done. They had spent an entire day, in what should have been perfect conditions, fishing a well-stocked lake using every trick and tactic fit for the servants to hear about, catching pretty well nothing. And then, bingo! The penny dropped and the bright light of insight shone.

The lake was Bewl Water, in Kent. The two writers were — well, it doesn't matter who they were: let us say a friend of mine and his friend.

When we — which is to say, they — arrived at the water, it was wondrously still. Martins dipped and scooped. Here and there trout dimpled the surface. From time to time a violent swirl showed a great fish in the margins. Light cloud and a breeze were promised for later. After that, calm and with it, no doubt, the inevitable evening rise. It was going to be a doddle. Jammy, they called it.

At 10.00am, they started.



An early trout angler begins his quest for the morning rise at Bewl Water, in Kent, on the day when fly fishing's great, late breakthrough was made

Being angling writers and having lots of books and hundreds of articles behind them, they knew exactly what to do. They would fish the shallower water, because that was where the fish would be gathering in autumn, and they would each use different tactics to double their chances. Doubling their chances is just the kind of thing angling writers think about. My friend put on a dry fly and, because there was so little drift, his friend decided to fish small nymphs close to the bottom.

By 10.30am, nothing. By 11.00am nothing. My friend began to change fly patterns and sizes and colours. His friend began to fish his nymphs in mid-water and then, just under the surface. they both lengthened their leaders in case the fish were being scared by the line.

At 11.30am they moved into deeper water, working out — again, this is the kind of thing fishing writers do — that the sun must be keeping the trout in the cooler dips a little longer than expected. There was no wind and they did not drift much. At around noon, the water erupted very close to the place they had left. Tiny fry leapt into the air.

Naturally, my friend was ready. He knew all about the way the new year's fry clustered together in the margin and the way big trout gorged on them in the autumn, fattening up for winter. He had a special rod already prepared and a fly which suggested a small fish wonderfully well.

Swish, swoosh, my friend's rod went and the fly landed perfectly where the swirls had been. Swish, swoosh, he went again and again. In fact, he swished and swooshed quite a bit before the swirl stopped and the boat moved on.

At 1.30pm they pulled into the bank for lunch. They noticed that everyone else kept on fishing and saw, now and then, splashes around outstretched nets.

"Anyone who will fish through his lunch hour is just a fishmonger," my friend's friend said. "No appreciation of the view. No interest in the wildlife."

"Pathetic," my friend replied — just before a couple of nice fish rose along the bank and he tried to run towards them in a nonchalant, unconcerned kind of way, before tripping in his wellies and falling headlong.

Around 3.00pm the promised breeze sprang up and a nice ripple pleated the surface. The promised cloud came, too, but it made no difference.

At 4.30pm my friend's friend switched to a sinking line and a lure the size of a parrot. "I hate doing it, but sometimes it's the only way."

It seemed to get hotter after that and then insufferably hot. A few sharp words were apparently exchanged and gradually the two friends fell to bickering, I understand.

Just after 7.00pm, my friend got a tangle. "Oh, look, I've got a tangle," he said. Something like that. "It's a long drive. I'm going to knock off."

"All right," said his friend. "I'll have one last cast and then come."

For a couple of minutes the fly rode the soft swell and then my friend's friend sighed and began to reel in. Not far from the boat there was a tremendous swirl, a great trout took and my friend's friend was startled almost out of his wits.

"You should have done that earlier," my friend said as he netted the fish. "If you'd had your last cast earlier, you might have caught a lot more."

"What a brilliant idea," his friend replied. "If you have your last cast early and get a fish, you could just go on from there and maybe get a bag full. You could even have your last cast first and make a day of it. What a wonderful tip!"

"Could be a breakthrough," my friend replied.

"Revolutionary," my friend's friend said.

☐ *Brian Clarke's fishing column appears on the first Monday of each month.*

Dulwich schoolboy XV enjoys unrivalled run of success

Thoroughbred colts march on

BY JOHN GOODBODY

HOW important athleticism has at last become in first-class rugby union. How important, too, at schools level.

Perhaps no team exemplifies this more than the present Dulwich College Colts XV. It is brimful of fast runners and gifted jumpers and the pace sustained throughout the game is quite exceptional for boys under 16.

It is no wonder that six of the squad are members of the Dulwich team that won the TSB National Athletic Cup at intermediate level.

In rugby, they are in their fifth unbeaten year. Last season, they beat Bristol Grammar School 37-0 in the final of a national under-15s competition at Twickenham. This season, they have defeated Bedford, Haileybury, Haberdashers' Aske's, Wellington and Harrow (amassing a total of 246 points and conceding only 12) before coming up against King's School, Canterbury on Saturday.

Here, alongside the cricket square in Kent where Frank Woolley coached in the 1930s and another elegant England left-hand batsman, David Gower, developed his skills, the two rugby teams played a match of astonishing tempo.

King's were not overawed and tackled and covered with great intensity. Dulwich won 35-6, but King's still came closer to matching their opponents than any other school this season.

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

Aerwyn Watson, the master in charge of the King's under-16 team, said: "I felt we continued to compete. We played with a great deal of spirit, but we lost the 50-50 balls. Dulwich were more streetwise than we were.

"We were beaten physically. They out-jumped us in the lineouts and had the edge in the other set pieces. We had to play catch-up rugby, living off scraps. But Dulwich are clearly an outstanding side."

Indeed they are. Neither of the masters in charge, Rick Wilson and Chris Wall, who have both been at the college for more than 25 years, can remember quite so many fine players in a single year and it is noticeable that the B team is also unbeaten by any other B team during its five years at Dulwich.

Wilson said: "We had a very good team in 1976 and, last season, the colts won the All-England sevens at Richmond, but this group has more to offer in more positions than any other side. We have been able to introduce some quite sophisticated rugby."

Wall said he was "quite disappointed" with the performance on Saturday, regretting that the team did not show all its qualities. Two players were missing, one of whom, Andrew Sheridan, was playing in the first XV match in which King's beat Dulwich 14-12.

Tim Dux, the Dulwich captain said: "There were also niggling punches early on and we lost discipline and the kickers lacked confidence. Usually Nick West can land them from anywhere." Either West or his deputies missed all the conversions and penalty kicks at goal.

Dux said of the unbeaten run: "For our first couple of years at the college we were bigger than our rivals. However, now I think we are winning because we have greater commitment and have better coaching."

Danny Brewer, a wing who is a promising hurdler with Blackheath Harriers, trains every day either at athletics or rugby. "It certainly gets tough to fit it all in at this stage of the season," he said. Alan Pascoe, the former European 400 metres hurdles champion, who taught at Dulwich in the 1970s, would quickly recognise his talent.

This will be the last year that this group plays together which is why, Dux said, it is so important that they remain unbeaten. There has been little evidence so far that anyone will beat them this winter. Dulwich ran in seven tries on Saturday through Reynolds (3), Dux (3) and Brewer, with Gareth Williams landing two penalties in reply.

Sherborne celebrate match's centenary in attacking style

Alison Kervin looks on from the touchline as close friends renew fierce rivalry

When Downside and Sherborne schools played their first rugby fixture, the country was on the brink of war, George V was on the throne and Herbert Asquith was Prime Minister.

Much has changed in the intervening 81 years, but the matches between these leading rugby schools have remained some of the most keenly contested and celebrated of public school clashes.

On Saturday, as the teams ran out for their hundredth match, the grassy banks sloping down from the Downside pitch were filled with around 2,000 cheering ex-players, parents and supporters to witness Sherborne win 13-0, extending their record against Downside to 49 victories and nine draws in 100 games.

Among the most distinguished guests was Sir Denis Thatcher, who joined the throng after speaking at the centenary dinner on Friday evening. One notable absentee was the Downside coach and England international, Jonathan Callard. He was unable to watch his team because of a commitment to Bath at Sale. Such conflicts of interest are forcing him out of teaching in the new year and into the world of the rugby professional.

The game he missed on Saturday was hard but clean — in the tradition of which both teams are very proud. Eight of Sherborne's points came from Jimmy Cheung. His early penalty and second-half try, along with a try before half-time from Charlie Warren, made up the score.

Downside's fierce defence prevented further scoring, but they failed to make an impression in attack and Sherborne looked the better side. Rugby

Schools results 32

is reputed to have come to Sherborne in 1846 with the arrival of a new headmaster from Rugby School. The sport fought for recognition with cricket but, by 1882, it was extremely popular and complaints were being made about impromptu games breaking out in school rooms. In 1891, the sport was shown to have made its mark when the school debating society put forward the motion "football is superior to cricket", which was carried by a large majority.

At Downside, the sport first took hold in the 1880s. Full rugby union rules were adopted in 1912, just a couple of years before the first match against Sherborne.

Both teams have produced an array of international players and coaches through the years. Downside's most recent international is Simon Halliday, the former England and Harlequins centre.

Sherborne's last full international was Colin Payne in 1966; but their most recent successes include Rob Kitchin, of Harlequins, and Nick Greenstock, of Wasps, both of whom have been on the fringes of the England team, and Adel Kardooni, the Leicester scrum half, who captained the school side for two years and represented England at schoolboy level.

Mike Davis, who coached England to a five nations' grand slam in 1980, and Alastair Hignell, the former England full back and now a rugby presenter on television, both taught at the school during Kardooni's time. Davis still coaches the side today.

A senior master at Sherborne School — Phil Jones — has coached both sides in the past. Summing up the match, he said: "Winston Churchill might have said of the fixture, rather than Europe, that it was like 'a fight to the death between neighbours'."

The keenest of rivals, the best of friends.

Giants take on the look of champions

THE Nynex Arena, constructed for the unsuccessful Manchester Olympic Games bid that turned into a successful one for the Commonwealth Games, could well become a home fit for champions long before the year 2002 (Nicholas Harling writes). Manchester Giants basketball team, who moved into their new 19,000 capacity home at the start of the season, have wasted little time confirming that they are ideally equipped to be playing there.

Their entry in September, it must be admitted, was hardly perfect. In front of Sky Television's cameras and a record audience for an English league game, the Giants lost to the Leopards; but they are unbeaten in the league since then.

On the evidence of Saturday's 81-76 victory over their nearest challengers, London Towers, the Giants may take some shifting from the leadership. "We're playing really well. We've had a lot of people step up," Mike Hanks, their coach, said after their most significant win yet.

Spurred on by Steve Bucknall and Danny Lewis, the Towers led 40-33 at half-time only to succumb to the inspiration of Mark Robinson. The American playmaker, who finished as the game's outstanding marksman with 26 points, was chiefly responsible for the 13-5 post-interval burst that helped the Giants into a 60-55 advantage at three-quarters time.

By then London must have been feeling the effects of the previous night's exertions, when they had restricted Doncaster Panthers to a season's lowest score of 49 points. Martin Henlan, nevertheless, reduced the arrears to 72-71 only to undo his good work with a foul which led to two free throws.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

The Insolvency Rules 1986 Rule 4.182(A)

MAGNET DIY LIMITED

In Members' Voluntary Liquidation

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mike J B Stephenson, Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Jordan Recovery, 248 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4PB, was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company following an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company on 26th September 1995.

The Liquidator gives notice, pursuant to Rule 4.182(A) of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the creditors of the Company must send details in writing of any claim against the Company, to the Liquidator at the above address by 5th December 1995. The Liquidator also gives notice under the provision of Rule 4.182(A)(6), that she intends to make a distribution to creditors who have submitted claims by 5 December 1995, otherwise a distribution will be made without regard to the claim of any person in respect of a debt not already proved. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.

Dated this 27th October 1995

J B Stephenson - Liquidator

Notice: This notice is purely formal. All known creditors have been, or will be, paid in full.

The Insolvency Rules 1986 Rule 4.182(A)

WILLIAM EVANS (DISTRIBUTORS) LIMITED

In Members' Voluntary Liquidation

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mike J B Stephenson, Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Jordan Recovery, 248 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4PB, was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company following an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company on 26th September 1995.

The Liquidator gives notice, pursuant to Rule 4.182(A) of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the creditors of the Company must send details in writing of any claim against the Company, to the Liquidator at the above address by 5th December 1995. The Liquidator also gives notice under the provision of Rule 4.182(A)(6), that she intends to make a distribution to creditors who have submitted claims by 5 December 1995, otherwise a distribution will be made without regard to the claim of any person in respect of a debt not already proved. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.

Dated this 27th October 1995

J B Stephenson - Liquidator

Notice: This notice is purely formal. All known creditors have been, or will be, paid in full.

HS WEAVERS (HOLDINGS) LIMITED (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

Company number: 0133089I

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF HS WEAVERS (HOLDINGS) LIMITED

On 31 October 1995 the company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Paul Anthony Brereton Evans of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.

The liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL, by 29 November 1995 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.

The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.

Date 2 November 1995

Paul Anthony Brereton Evans, Liquidator

HOSHO EUROPE LIMITED (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

Company Number: 2168323

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF HOSHO EUROPE LIMITED

On 6th November 1995 the above named company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse, No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.

The liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at the above address, by 29th November 1995 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.

The company is able to pay all known creditors in full.

AV Lomas, Liquidator

Date 6 November 1995.

Snowball & Found Ltd (IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, S. D. Swaden, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Mowers, Leonard Curtis & Co., PO Box 653, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 31st October 1995. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.

All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.

DATED THIS 31st October 1995.

S. D. Swaden, FCA, Liquidator.

THE CENSUS COMMITTEE LIMITED

Company No: 3468868

In Members' Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above Company intends to make a distribution to its creditors. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims and their names and addresses to the Liquidator, Roger Smith, Ernst Corporate Recovery, P O Box 230, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4HA as at or before Friday 15th December 1995, which is the last day for proving debts. Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distributions and that such distributions will be made without regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned. Note: The Company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.

R Smith - Liquidator

Dated 30th October 1995

EUROPEAN ESTATES (FRANCE) LIMITED

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Peter S Dunn FCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kentrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the Creditors on 1st November 1995.

DATED THIS 1ST NOVEMBER 1995

Peter S Dunn FCA, Liquidator.

LJN TOYS (UK) LIMITED (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

Company number: 357160

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF LJN TOYS (UK) LIMITED

On 30 October 1995 the company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.

The liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL by 29 November 1995 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.

The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.

Date 2 November 1995

AV Lomas, Liquidator

Business Monitoring Limited

The Insolvency Act 1986

Registered number: 2766965.

Trading name: Managed Derivatives. Nature of Business: Magazine Publishing. Trade Classification 4860. Date of appointment of Administrative Receivers: 1 November 1995. Name of person appointing the Administrative Receivers: Financial Engineering Limited. Joint Administrative Receivers: S. A. Jackson and R. J. Harris (Office holder no: 8585 and 8715) both of BEEBEE NORTON. Cromwell House, Fulwood Place, Gray's Inn, London WC1V 6HZ.

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receivers

Peter Coates Bodies Limited

Nature of business: Motor Vehicles Manufacturing. Trade classification: No 6. Date of appointment of administrative receiver: 30 October 1995. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: National Westminster Bank plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: R Hocking and P G Byatt, (office holder nos: 2522/01 and 6277/01). Address: B D O Stoy Hayward 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA.

Hawkrow Properties Limited

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 15th November 1995 at 11.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq.

A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 653, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceeding the Meeting of Creditors.

DATED THIS 30th October 1995.

I. Smith, Director.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

In Bankruptcy. In the High Court of Justice No 7281 of 1994

Re ROY ANTHONY BURGESS of 2 South Avenue, Clevelays, FY5 1JY trading at 3 Starkie Street, Preston, Lancashire as a hairdresser. On 27 October 1995 the above-named Court made a Bankruptcy Order against the above-named debtor. NOTE: All debts due to the estate should be paid to me. Date 1 November 1995.

R.L. Paterson, Official Receiver, Petros House, St Andrews Road North, Lytham St. Annes, FY8 2JD Telephone (01253) 784200.

No 006066 of 1995

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

CHANCERY DIVISION

COMPANIES COURT

IN THE MATTER OF WOLTERS KLUWER (UK) PLC

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice, Chancery Division on 29th September 1995 for the confirmation of the reduction of the share capital of the above named Company from £49,029,000 to £500,000 and the cancellation of Share Premium Account of the above named Company.

AND NOTICE is further given that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 15th day of November 1995.

Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share capital and cancellation of Share Premium Account should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the Regulated Charge for the same.

Dated the 27th day of October 1995

CANNINGS CONNOLLY

Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7HS

Ref: NJZ/W5/15

Solicitors for the Company.

No. 5769 of 1995

In the High Court of Justice

Bankruptcy

Re: Allan Ferguson, address unknown in Mexico of 11 Albion Close, London W2 2AT trading as 14A Eccleston Street, London SW1 as a company president lately of White Cottage, Fleet Hill, Finchampstead, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG11 4LJ formerly of 7701 Wentbach Towers, APT 22006, San Antonio formerly trading at Crouch Farm House, Bartlynaton, Petworth, West Sussex GU28 0UQ as an unknown occupation.

Notice is hereby given that I, Antony B Thompson of KPMG, 1 Forest Gate, Brighton Road, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 9PT was appointed Trustee by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry with effect from 11 October 1995 under the Insolvency Act 1986.

All creditors are hereby invited to prove their debts by sending details to me at my address as shown above by close of business on 25 November 1995.

Dated 1 November 1995

A B Thompson,

Trustee in bankruptcy

Lilygrade Limited

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF on 16th November 1995 at 11.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq.

A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 653, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.

DATED THIS 30th October 1995

J. Joseph, Director.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND BENEFICIARIES TO SEND IN CLAIMS TRUSTEE ACT 1925 SECTION 27

Re: JOHN EDWARD EASTCOTT BESWICK Deceased

PURSUANT to the Trustee Act 1925 NOTICE is given that all creditors and others having any claims against or claiming to be beneficially interested in the estate of John Edward Eastcott Beswick late of Flat 13 Ashburn Gardens, London SW7 who died on the 1st day of August 1995 and whose will was proved in the Principal Registry of the Family Division on the 25th day of October 1995 by Michael James Palmer and Elizabeth Antonia Selwyn-Davies the executor and executrix named in it are required to send particulars in writing to the undersigned solicitors on or before the 14th day of January 1996 after which date the said executor and executrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the persons entitled to them having regard only to the claims of which they then have had notice and shall not be liable for the assets of the deceased or any part of them so distributed to any person or persons of whose claims or demands they then have not had notice.

DATED the 31st day of October 1995

Messrs Palmer Cowen

16 Berkeley Street,

London W1X 5AE

Ref: AM/B04807

Solicitors for the Executor and Executrix

RACE RESULTS & DIVIDENDS 0891 188-[illegible]
F'KESTONE [illegible]
CARLISLE [illegible]
S'THWELL [illegible]

Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

Forces' homosexual ban not irrational

Regina v Secretary of State for Defence, Ex parte Smith
Regina v Same, Ex parte Grady
Regina v Admiralty Board of the Defence Council, Ex parte Lustig-Prean
Regina v Same, Ex parte Beckett

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Thorpe

[Judgment November 3]

The policy of the Ministry of Defence, that homosexuality was incompatible with service in the British armed forces so that people of that sexual orientation were administratively discharged from service, had been supported by both Houses of Parliament and by those whose professional advice the ministry had properly sought.

Accordingly, at the time in 1994 when the four applicants had been discharged in conformity with the policy it could not be stigmatised as irrational.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing appeals by Lieutenant-Commander Duncan Lustig-Prean, Mr John Beckett, Miss Jeanette Smith and Mr Graeme Grady from the Divisional Court (Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Curtis) (*The Times* June 13, 1995) who had dismissed their applications for judicial review (i) to quash decisions taken for their discharge and (ii) for declarations that the policy was unlawful.

Mr David Pannick, QC and Mr Peter Duffy for Lieutenant-Commander Lustig-Prean; Mr David Pannick, QC and Mr John Bowers for Mr Beckett; Mr David Pannick, QC and Mr Rambу de Mello for Miss Smith; Miss Laura Cox QC, Mr Jonathan Cooper and Miss Stephanie Harrison for Mr Grady; Mr Stephen Richards, Mr James Eadie and Mr Andrew Tabachnik for the Ministry of Defence.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that none of the applicants had committed any offence against the general criminal law, nor against the special law governing his or her service: none had committed any homosexual act on service premises nor, save in one instance, said to be unwitting, any act involving another member of the service.

All had shown the qualities required of loyal and efficient service personnel: all had looked forward to long service careers, now denied them. Their lives and livelihoods had been grossly disrupted by their involuntary discharge.

His Lordship referred to the applicants' challenge which was, and was only, to the blanket, non-discretionary, unspecific nature of the existing policy. They had said that the policy was irrational, in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights (1953) (Cmd 8969) and contrary to the Equal Treatment Directive (76/207/EEC) (OJ 1976 L39/40).

There could be no doubt that public attitudes to homosexuals and homosexuality had in the past varied widely from country to country and within the same country at different times and among different social groups in the same country.

Almost any generalisation could be faulted, but there had in the United Kingdom been a discernible trend over the last half century towards greater understanding and tolerance of homosexuals by heterosexuals and towards greater openness and honesty by homosexuals.

His Lordship referred to the legislation in 1967 decriminalising homosexual acts between consenting adults in private and to the proviso that such acts might still constitute offences under statutes governing the three services. The view was then taken that to permit such acts between members of the armed services would be subversive of discipline, efficiency and good order.

The routine quinquennial review of the statutes governing the armed forces had the effect that such issues as the treatment of homosexuals were reconsidered periodically. In 1986 a select committee of the House of Commons concluded that the law should remain as it stood.

In 1991 another select committee returned to the subject: accepting a submission that service law should be brought into line with civilian law, but rejecting a submission that homosexual orientation alone should not be a bar to membership of the armed services.

They were not persuaded in 1991 that the time had yet come to permit the armed forces to accept homosexuals or homosexual activity. In 1992 the responsible minister announced that in future individuals engaging in homosexual activity that was legal in civilian law would not be prosecuted under service law.

His Lordship referred to section 146(1) of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 which gave effect to that change, and also to section 146(4) which provided that a homosexual act might nevertheless constitute a ground for discharging a member of the armed forces.

The 1991 select committee, in upholding the existing policy, undoubtedly reflected the overwhelming consensus of service and official opinion in the United Kingdom.

They did not appear to have required or received evidence of actual harm done by sexual orientation alone or by private homosexual activity outside the context of service life; nor to have considered whether the objectives of the existing policy could be met by a rule less absolute in its effect than that which was then applied.

His Lordship referred to other areas of national life in which opinion had shifted as evidenced by the Prime Minister's announcement in July 1991 that neither homosexual orientation nor private homosexual activity was to preclude appointment to sensitive posts in the home civil service and diplomatic service; by the Lord Chancellor's announcements to similar effect in relation to judicial office; and by the introduction in 1994 of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary's equal opportunities policy which did not discriminate on the ground of homosexuality. That policy was also now followed by a majority of police forces.

Outside the United Kingdom opinion had not stood still. Few NATO countries barred homosexuals from their armed forces. In the course of 1992-1993 New Zealand, Australia and Canada had relaxed their ban, introducing codes of conduct which defined forms of homosexual conduct judged to be unacceptable.

In the United States military opinion remained overwhelmingly against allowing homosexuals to serve and the lawfulness of the legislative compromise there adopted was at present in doubt.

His Lordship regarded the progressive development and refinement of public and professional opinion at home and abroad as an important feature of the case. A belief which represented unquestioned orthodoxy in year X might have become questionable by year Y and unsustainable by year Z.

Public and professional opinion were a continuum. The applicants were discharged towards the end of 1994. The lawfulness of their discharge fell to be judged as of that date.

On the question of irrationality his Lordship accepted the test adumbrated by Mr Pannick that the court could not interfere with the exercise of an administrative decision on substantive grounds save where it was satisfied that the decision was unreasonable in the sense that it was beyond the range of responses open to a reasonable decision-maker; but that in judging whether the decision-maker had exceeded that margin of appreciation the human rights context was important: the more substantial the interference with human rights, the more the court would require by way of justification before it was satisfied that the decision was reasonable.

His Lordship rejected the ministry's argument, based on *Nottinghamshire County Council v Secretary of State for the Environment* ([1986] AC 240) and *Hammersmith and Fulham London Borough Council v Secretary of State for the Environment* ([1991] 1 AC 521), that a more exacting test than *Wednesbury* reasonableness (*[1948] 1 KB 223*) was appropriate.

The greater the policy content of a decision and the more remote the subject matter from ordinary judicial experience, the more hesitant the court had necessarily to be in holding a decision to be irrational. But the test itself was sufficiently flexible to cover all situations.

In the present cases, the applicants' rights as human beings were very much in issue. That did not mean that the court was thrust into the position of primary decision-maker.

It was not its constitutional role to regulate the conditions of service in the armed forces of the Crown, nor had it the expertise to do so.

But it had the role and duty of ensuring that the rights of citizens were not abused by the unlawful exercise of executive power. While the court had properly to defer to the expertise of responsible decision-makers it was not to shrink from its fundamental duty to do right to all manner of people.

His Lordship referred to the three reasons given on behalf of the ministry as underlying the policy: (i) morale and unit effectiveness; (ii) the role of the services as guardian of recruits under 18 and (iii) the requirement of communal living in many service situations.

His Lordship referred to Mr Pannick's criticisms of those reasons, and in particular of the blanket nature of the existing rule and to the emphasis he had placed on the practice of other nations whose rules were framed so as to counter particular mischiefs to which homosexual orientation or activity might give rise.

He had pointed out that other personal problems were dealt with by the service authorities on a case by case basis and not on the basis of a rule which permitted no account to be taken of the peculiar features of the case under consideration.

In his Lordship's opinion, those arguments were of considerable cogency, calling to be considered in depth with particular reference to specific evidence of past experience at home, to the developing experience of other countries and to the potential effectiveness or otherwise of a detailed prescriptive code along the lines adopted elsewhere in place of the present blanket ban.

Such a re-assessment of the existing policy was already in train and the next select committee quinquennial review of the policy was to receive a departmental paper of evidence covering all the matters canvassed on the instant appeal.

The existing policy could not, in his Lordship's judgment, be stigmatised as irrational at the time when the applicants were discharged. It was supported by both Houses of Parliament and by those whom the ministry properly looked to for professional advice. There was no evidence, to his Lordship's knowledge, before the ministry which plainly invalidated that advice.

Changes made by other countries were in some cases very recent. Major policy changes should be the product of mature reflection not instant reaction.

The threshold of irrationality was a high one. It was not crossed here.

His Lordship referred to article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights. The relevance of the Convention was as background to the complaint of irrationality.

Mr Richards had indicated: (i) that the ministry did not accept that the existing policy interfered with any right of the applicants protected by the Convention; and alternatively, if there were interference with the right of privacy, (ii) that such interference was justified as being in accordance with the law and necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security.

His Lordship did not find the first submission at first blush persuasive: to dismiss a person from his or her employment on the ground of a private sexual preference and to interrogate him or her about private sexual behaviour would not appear to show respect for that person's private and family life.

There might also be room for argument whether the interference in question answered "a pressing social need and in particular is proportionate to the legitimate aim pursued" see *Norris v Ireland* (*The Times* October 31, 1988; (1988) 13 EHRR 186, 198).

Those were not, however, questions to which answers might properly or usefully be proffered by the court which had seen none of the evidence which would be relied on if it were the court, and not the European Court of Human Rights, with whom the responsibility for deciding the issue lay.

As it was, it might be necessary for the applicants, if all else failed, to incur the expense and endure the delay of pursuing their claim in Strasbourg.

Turning to Miss Cox's submissions based on the Equal Treatment Directive, his Lordship found nothing whatever in the Treaty of Rome or in the directive which suggested that the draftsmen were addressing their minds in any way whatever to problems of discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation.

Had it been intended to regulate discrimination on that ground, it could easily have been done. Plainly it was not.

On those grounds he would dismiss the appeals.

Lord Justice Henry delivered a judgment concurring with the Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Thorpe delivered a judgment concurring in the result.

Solicitors: Bindman & Partners; Wansbroughs Willey Hargrave, Sheffield; Tyndallwoods, Birmingham; Tyndallwoods, Birmingham; Treasury Solicitor.

Sum need only be payable for reinsurance liability

Charter Reinsurance Co Ltd v Fagan and Others

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Staughton and Lord Justice Simon Brown

[Judgment October 25]

For reinsurers to be liable under a reinsurance contract which provided in the ultimate net loss clause for payment for "the sum actually paid", it was sufficient that the claim against which the reinsurance was to indemnify them had been established to be immediately payable and it was not necessary to have been actually paid.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment by majority, Lord Justice Staughton dissenting, in dismissing an appeal brought by Mr Patrick Fehrim Fagan and all other members of Lloyd's Syndicates 540 and 542 for the 1989 and 1990 underwriting years of account, the reinsurers, against the decision of Mr Justice Mance on July 5, 1995.

Mr Gordon Pollock, QC, Mr Robert Hillyard and Mr Stephen Russell for the reinsurers; Mr Sydney Kentridge, QC, Mr John Rowland and Mr Andrew Neish for the insurers.

LORD JUSTICE STAUGHTON, dissenting, said that the dispute was about the meaning of two words "actually paid". There had to come a time when efforts to bend meaning had to stop.

The literal meaning of the words in the contracts required the insurers to have paid before the reinsurers were liable. To the extent, if at all, that that produced a result which was unreasonable, it was not so unreasonable that it required their Lordships to depart from the plain meaning of the words. Indeed, his Lordship doubted whether it was unreasonable at all.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that the point of construction raised on the appeal was whether the phrase in reinsurance policies "the sum actually paid" meant what it appeared to mean or whether it meant "the sum actually payable".

In other words, for reinsurers to be liable, must the reinsured actually have disbursed, or otherwise satisfied, the claim against which the reinsurance was to indemnify them, or was it sufficient that such claim had been established to be immediately payable?

The main principle which emerged from the authorities governing the correct approach to construing a commercial contract was that the contractual words used might, whatever their context, be so abundantly clear that however unreasonable the result, they must be given that clear meaning.

Was the apparent meaning of the words used here, "the sum actually paid", so abundantly clear in context, to obviously involve actual disbursement that however unreasonable the result, one must so construe them?

Powerful though the arguments were to that effect, and hesitant though his Lordship was to disagree with Lord Justice Staughton, he had reached the conclusion that the words were not so clear. His Lordship readily acknowledged that the most obvious meaning of the words was that for which the reinsurers contended.

But if it was asked how such a meaning could have been made any clearer, a simple answer was to be found in the House of Lords' decision in *The Fanti and The Padre Island* ([1990] 2 Lloyd's Rep 191) namely, by adopting the words used in the club rules there under consideration, whereby the members were indemnified against claims which they "shall have become liable to pay and shall have in fact paid".

His Lordship of course recognised the close similarity between "the sum actually paid" and "claims which they ... shall have in fact paid". But the inclusion in *The Fanti* of the additional words "shall have become liable to pay" made it impossible to argue in that case, as was successfully argued before Mr Justice Mance, that the critical words meant just that; in *The Fanti* the words so construed would have been simply tautologous, here such a construction provided an arguable alternative.

To say that words of yet clearer meaning could have been used was not, however, a sufficient answer to the submission that the words used here were themselves unambiguously clear. Additional responses had to be given.

First was that the words had to be construed in their context. That context had two aspects. One, the wider aspect, was that those words appeared in an excess of loss reinsurance contracts, a context in which it was unlikely that the reinsurers' duty to pay would be made conditional upon the reinsureds' prior disbursement of incoming insurance claims.

The second and narrower aspect was that the words were used in an ultimate net loss clause, a clause which on any view was concerned essentially with the measurement of reinsurance recoveries and where it would be surprising to find imposed a condition requiring prior disbursement.

His Lordship found it helpful to consider the rival constructions in three different situations:

1 Where the reinsured was in any event insolvent and unable to pay even his own share of the loss;

2 Where without difficulty he could pay the entire loss and

3 Where he could pay his own share but not easily more.

Insolvency

His Lordship could readily see that reinsurers might wish to provide that in the event of the reinsured becoming insolvent, indemnity should not be payable. But there was no such stipulation here.

Reinsured able to pay entire loss

In this situation it really made little difference to the parties whether prior payment was required or not. Even if it was required and made, the reinsurer came under an immediate liability to reimburse his reinsured and accordingly gained nothing from the provision. The very fact that he must immediately reimburse the loss denied the provision any value as a guarantee that the claim was well founded.

Reinsured unable to pay entire loss

This was the paradigm situation and his Lordship found Mr Kentridge's argument compelling and Mr Pollock's unpersuasive. Theoretically, the reinsured, if solvent, could seek a bank loan or otherwise pay part at least of the excess loss so as to trigger some reimbursement under the indemnity policy. But to what end?

Assuming full recovery was ultimately achieved as intended under the policy, the reinsurers would have gained nothing, whereas the reinsured would probably have been put to considerable inconvenience and expense. The condition could not rationally have been imposed to achieve those consequences. It served no legitimate interest of the reinsurers.

The only effect of introducing a condition of prior payment would be that sometimes it could not be satisfied in which event the entire object of the reinsurance contract would be thwarted and the reinsurers would receive a pure windfall gain. That could not have been the mutual intention of the parties.

His Lordship concluded therefore that such a construction of the clause was wholly unreasonable and that it had to yield to business common sense. Accordingly the appeal would be dismissed.

Lord Justice Nourse delivered a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Simon Brown.

Solicitors: Ince & Co; Davies Arnold Cooper.

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TOMORROW: WIN A TRIP TO TANZANIA

Scots Law Report November 6 1995

Statutory procedure breached

Highland Regional Council v British Railways Board

Before the Lord President (Lord Hope), Lord Allanbridge and Lord Osborne

[Judgment June 7]

Where a statutory procedure had to be followed before all passenger services on any given railway line could be withdrawn, the provision in place of the discontinued service of a late-night service which was unlikely to be of any benefit to the travelling public, which might well not carry any passengers at all, and which was introduced simply for the purpose of seeking to prevent the closure procedure coming into operation, could not properly be described as a "railway passenger service".

The provision of such a service was simply a device to obviate the closure procedure, which the law would not countenance.

The First Division of the Inner House of the Court of Session so held, refusing a reclaiming motion by the British Railways Board against an interlocutor of the Lord Ordinary, in a petition for judicial review brought by Highland Regional Council, pronouncing decree of declarator that a proposal by the board to withdraw the sleeper service from Ford William to London Euston constituted a proposal to discontinue all the railway passenger services on certain sections of permanent way in terms of section 37(1) of the Railways Act 1993, decree of reduction of the board's decision to discontinue the service with effect from May 28, 1995, and decree of interdict against the withdrawal of the service by the board until such time as the statutory procedures under section 37 had been instituted and a final decision made.

Section 37 of the 1993 Act provides:

"(1) In any case where — (a) all the railway passenger services on any line or from any station are provided otherwise than in satisfaction of requirements imposed by a franchise agreement and otherwise than on behalf of the franchising director, and (b) the person providing those services ... proposes to discontinue all such services on that line or from that station ... then ... the service operator shall give notice of the proposal to the franchising director not less than three months before the date specified ... as that on which the service operator will cease providing the services ... and shall not discontinue those services before that date.

"(2) In determining for the purposes of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) above whether all the railway passenger services on a line or from a station are provided as mentioned in that paragraph, there shall be left out of account any services — ... (c) which are provided otherwise than as regular scheduled services for that line or for that station, as the case may be."

Mr Christopher Haddow, QC, for the respondents and reclaimers; Mr Andrew Hajducki, QC and Mr Mungo Bovey for the petitioners and respondents.

THE LORD PRESIDENT said that the difficulty for the board was that the sleeper service to Fort William was the only scheduled passenger service which used three short sections of line at Cowlairs Junction near Glasgow and at Cumbernauld.

What the board proposed to do in order to avoid the necessity of initiating the closure procedure was to provide three new services on those three short sections of line. Each new service was a single daily train running in one direction only late in the evening.

The board admitted that they were unlikely to be of benefit to the travelling public. The principal issue was whether the substitute services were "railway passenger services" within the meaning of section 37 of the 1993 Act.

The reclaimers contended that the Lord Ordinary had erred in holding that they were not. They argued that the substitute services were "services for the carriage of passengers by railway" in terms of section 82(1) of the 1993 Act.

The public had a right to be heard under section 37 if it was proposed to discontinue all the passenger services on any line or from any station.

Their Lordships agreed with the Lord Ordinary that it was difficult to believe that Parliament could have intended that those procedures could be defeated by the provision of a service which was admitted to be of no benefit to the travelling public.

A device the sole purpose of which was to obviate the closure procedures had no part to play in the procedures provided by Parliament.

Moreover, the word "for" in section 37(2)(c) directed attention to the purpose for which the service was provided. The word "services" was given a very wide meaning by section 82(1), but in the context of section 37(2)(c), there had to be a service "for" the line.

In their Lordships' opinion a service whose only purpose was to prevent the operation of the closure procedure was not such a service.

For those reasons the board's decision had to be reduced on the ground of illegality as explained by Lord Diplock in *CCSU v Minister for Civil Service* ([1985] AC 374): see *Wordie Property Co Ltd v Secretary of State for Scotland* (1984 SLT 345, 347) per Lord President Emslie.

The council had enrolled a cross reclaiming motion against the Lord Ordinary's rejection of its argument that the decision was in bad faith and unreasonable.

It contended that the board were acting in bad faith because their actions were intended to do nothing else but defeat the legitimate interests of the public who wished to see the service maintained.

It founded on *R v British Coal Corporation, Ex parte Price* ([1993] ICR 720), *Warwickshire County Council v British Railways Board* ([1969] 1 WLR 1117) and *Re Y (Minors) (Wardship: Access challenge* ([1988] 1 FLR 299).

However, their Lordships agreed with Mr Haddow that the decision to introduce the substitute services should be seen as part of the more fundamental decision which it was designed to implement, namely to save money. The weight to be given to financial considerations was a matter not for the court but for the board.

As for the complaint that the decision was in bad faith because of the ulterior motive: if the board had been acting within their powers in treating the substitute services as passenger services for the purposes of section 37, their decision could not be invalidated on the ground of an improper motive: see *Gerry Cottle's Circus Ltd v City of Edinburgh District Council* (1990 SLT 235).

Law agents: Morton Fraser & Milligan, WS; Biggart Baillie & Gifford, WS.

In the OUTER HOUSE of the COURT OF SESSION

Highland Regional Council v British Railways Board

Before Lord Kirkwood

[Judgment May 9]

Mr Andrew Hajducki, QC, for the petitioners; Mr Christopher Haddow, QC, for the respondents.

LORD KIRKWOOD said that since about 1901 the respondents and their predecessors had provided a through sleeper service from Fort William to London Euston. The service was the only railway passenger service to use three short sections of line in Scotland.

The respondents had decided to discontinue the service, but had not given notice in accordance with section 37.

They contended that they were not under any obligation to do so because they were proposing to provide substitute passenger services on the sections of line in question. The substitute services would consist of three non-sleeper services of a more local nature, each running late at night and only once a day.

It could be said to be fortuitous, from the petitioners' point of view, that the sleeper service was the only passenger service which ran on the three sections of line in question.

Counsel for the respondents frankly accepted that the purpose of providing the substitute services was to enable the respondents to contend that they were maintaining a passenger service on each of the three sections and thus prevent the section 37 procedure from coming into operation.

The critical issue was whether or not the proposed substitute services would be "railway passenger services" within the meaning of section 37 and so would have the effect of preventing the closure procedure from coming into operation.

The petitioners contended that the proposed services were a sham. The respondents submitted that the provision of any passenger service was sufficient for their purposes, whether or not the trains acually carried any passengers.

In section 83 of the 1993 Act, "railway passenger service" was defined as meaning "any service for the carriage of passengers by railway", and it was provided that "services for the carriage of passengers by railway" included services on trains which were available, and primarily intended, for use by passengers.

With regard to one of the substitute services, the respondents frankly conceded that there was no proven need for it and that it was unlikely to benefit the travelling public.

With regard to the second, they admitted that its use of one of the sections of line in question was of no conceivable use or benefit to the travelling public, apart from avoiding closure of the said section. The third service was a diversion of an existing service. The respondents admitted that the diversion, which increased the length of the journey, would be unlikely to benefit the travelling public.

His Lordship found it difficult to believe that Parliament could have intended that the procedure specified in section 37 could be prevented from coming into operation by the provision of a "passenger service" which was admitted to be of no actual benefit to the travelling public.

It might be a question of degree in each case whether or not the service which was proposed could properly be regarded as a "railway passenger service".

However, such a service had to be a genuine service which was intended to be for the carriage of passengers.

It seemed to his Lordship that a late-night service for which there had not been shown to be any need, which was unlikely to be of any benefit to the travelling public and might well not carry any passengers at all, and was introduced simply for the purpose of seeking to prevent the closure procedure coming into operation, could not properly be described as a "railway passenger service" within the meaning of the Act.

His Lordship was of the opinion that the respondents were, in effect, proposing to discontinue all passenger services on the three sections of line and that their proposal was outwith their powers.

Law agents: Morton Fraser & Milligan, WS; Biggart Baillie & Gifford, WS.

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Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
8,268.60	ABN AMRO	2725	+ 84½	4.7	10.2
7,075.20	Abbey Nat	936	+ 2	4.5	10.7
2,173.10	Allied Irish	536	+ 7	4.6	10.7
3,753.80	Aus New Z	373	+ 11	4.4	9.5
13,213.60	Bank America	3775	+112½	5.1	8.2
2,566.60	Bank Scotland	251	..	2.1	11.1
12,127.50	Barclays	750	+ 13	3.8	10.2
2,011.20	Bk of Ireland	423	+ 4	3.8	8.5
153.00	Cater Allen	495	+ ½	7.7	7.1
16,688.40	Citicorp	4287½	+27½	..	..
377.10	Close Bros	314	- 2	3.5	..
5,214.00	Coutts	£145½	-6.05½	3.7	..
33,159.90	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1062½	+ 3½	0.5	..
13,687.40	Deutsche Bk	2862½	- 99½	2.5	..
152.20	Espirito Santo	712½	..	11.6	..
34,318.00	Fuji Bank Y	1156½	+ 49½	0.4	..
218.50	Gerrard Nat	448	+ 5	6.4	14.2
256.00	Hambros	881	+ 1	4.7	50.7
8,108.80	HSBC	943	+ 16	3.7	12.1
16,525.20	HSBC HK	937	+ 18	3.8	12.1
253.50	Irish Perm	333	..	3.6	7.7
23.50	Joseph (L)	443	+ 20	5.0	24.7
29.30	King Shaxson	114	+ 1	8.9	8.9
16,439.40	Lloyds	795	+ 26	4.2	12.1
7,824.80	Nat Aust Bk	1458	+ 10	6.8	9.3
11,133.10	Nat West	638	+ 11	4.4	9.9
125.00	Ottoman Bank	1250	..	8.5	3.4
21.90	Rea Brothers	45	..	2.8	18.8
4,128.90	Rpl Bk Scot	511	+ ½	3.5	12.3
2,030.40	Schroders	1338	+ 43	1.3	19.1
488.26	Schroders NV	1105	+ 35	1.6	15.7
209.50	Singer & Fried	186	..	4.4	11.0
5,053.70	Standard Chart	521	+ 21	2.2	13.1
5,806.30	TSB	379	+ 9	3.8	13.8
27.90	Union	105	..	3.6	..
6,570.70	Wells Fargo	£138½	+6.68½	2.1	..
4,784.80	Westpac	282½	+ 7	2.2	..
25.10	Wintrust	295	..	4.8	16.9

BREWERIES

58.00	Ascot Hdgs	210	+ 1	..	9.4
5,827.80	Bass	1003	+ 6	4.1	16.0
508.50	Boddington	418	+ 18	3.7	21.6
38.70	Burnwood Bry	186	..	3.6	17.2
35.60	Eldridge P 'A'	172	..	2.3	20.9
1,995.70	Fosters Brewing	82	+ 3	3.6	..
83.00	Fuller Sm 'A'	647	..	3.7	17.4
1,049.00	Greenalls Grp	830	+ 19	3.4	14.5
270.50	Greene King	638	..	2.7	17.1
55.60	Hanby Hanse	378	+ 3	4.3	13.0
3.50	Hepworths	155	..	4.5	18.9
97.40	Holt J	310	..	2.6	20.2
210.30	Marstfield	327	- 1	2.7	17.5
272.70	Mason Thop	304	..	2.7	15.3
144.50	Matthew	253	+ 11	2.7	15.6
8.26	Paramount	7	..	1.9	..
90.50	Regent Inns	573	+ 5	1.5	22.6
5,820.50	SA Breweries	2073	- 69½	1.7	28.5
3,586.10	Scot & Newc	595	+ 2	3.9	15.7
	Scot & Newc P/P	1030	..	..	..
382.70	Vaux Group	536	+ 8	4.8	14.6
232.50	Wetherspoon JD	637	+ 6	7.6	..
2,668.00	Whitbread	692	+ 13	4.2	16.0
352.00	Wolverhmpn O	527	+ 3	3.4	13.6
107.80	Yates Wags	273	+ 3	1.4	27.4
13.20	Young 'A'	455	..	4.1	20.4

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

52.30	Abbey	135	..	4.9	8.8
46.80	Alfred McAlpine	178	..	3.9	13.1
119.50	Amec	267	+ 3	6.4	12.4
37.00	Andrews Sykes	258	+ 9	..	..
133.60	Ashtead	458	+ 13	2.1	14.4
18.70	Azeusabe	43	..	9.5	6.8
5.60	Bailey (Geo) Con	24	- 2½	5.5	5.8
16.70	Barcare	36	..	..	..
362.10	Barratt Devt	197	+ 4	4.8	..
423.60	Beazer Homes†	153	..	4.8	11.0
230.70	Bellway	234	+ 8	4.2	..
7.20	Bellwinch	16	..	1.6	8.6
321.60	Bellway Plc	416	+ 6	3.8	12.8
24.90	Bett Bros	185	- 1	3.8	5.2
52.60	Bost (Henry)†	185	- 9	4.5	9.1
20.40	Brandon Hire	94	- 1	3.0	16.6
28.30	Britannia Grp	28	..	7.1	5.5
4.04	Br Bldg & Eng	36	..	2.7	5.0
261.10	Bryant	931½	- 9½	6.8	..
48.10	CALA	114	..	3.5	11.9
2.81	Campbell & Ann	19½	- 5½	..	15.5
61.60	Clarke T	69	- 3	10.4	17.5
37.30	Costain	72	- 1	..	..
41.30	Countrywide	54	..	9.7	7.7
45.50	Crest Nicholson	46	..	5.4	6.4
12.80	Cussins	72	+ 2	6.6	8.3
17.20	Eve Group	105	..	7.9	9.4
14.20	Ecosse†	16	..	6.3	..
75.50	Gleeson (MJ)	746	- 2	2.5	..
4.70	Grain (Ernest)†	61	..	10.5	26.6
71.80	Hanelock Exps	273	+ 2	1.5	22.9
240.30	Hawtin-Stuart	123	+ 1½	2.9	13.1
10.40	Hazlewood & Hall	71	..	7.0	9.8
3.95	Howard Hdgs	15	..	6.7	17.5
9.73	Jarvis	23	..	..	..
72.80	Keller	138	..	3.7	12.6
105.10	Laing (JT)	239	+ 4	4.9	26.3
19.40	Laing (John) Dr Pf	92	+ ½	4.3	..
5.57	Lovell (YJ)	14	..	8.9	..
44.20	Maunders (JH)	177	- 1	4.0	..
85.70	McAlpine (Alf)	124	- 2	6.0	14.1
52.60	McCarthy & S	59½	..	..	15.1
22.50	Morgan Crucible	271	- 2	1.5	..
77.40	Morrison Cons	116	..	3.2	11.4
106.60	Mowlem (J)	61	+ 7	4.1	38.4
190.50	Persimmon	1603	..	7.2	11.3
16.80	Pochins	1800½	- 9½	2.5	..
71.80	Redland	94	..	4.3	12.1
39.50	Rees Ind	21	- 1	14.8	4.4
5.15	Severn Relite	50	..	2.5	9.5
256.90	Redmart	116	..	3.4	..
40.50	Sheriff Hdgs	382	- 7	2.2	13.2
5.04	Shiloh	30	- 3	6.3	21.3
109.80	Spandex	340	- 3	1.8	21.5
42.00	Sty Homes†	144	- 1	6.1	9.9
397.30	Taylor Woodrw	103	- 3	2.7	18.8
141.30	Tilbury Douglas	416	- 4	6.8	14.2
5.48	Tarmac Hire	33	..	4.9	11.4
8.53	Tesdemond	10	+ ½	..	4.1
6.57	Try Group	9½	- ½	6.8	13.3
38.80	Vibroplant	84	- 3	6.0	6.6
52.20	Wakefornes	168	..	5.6	8.5
23.40	Walsall Hdgs	44	..	4.5	8.8
112.60	Westbury	169	+ 5	4.4	12.4
15.00	Wiggins	3½	..	..	22.4
286.30	Wilson (C)	144	- ½	3.9	10.7
312.90	Wilson Bowden	335	..	2.8	12.2
364.60	Wimpey G	181	+ 1	6.8	14.7

BUILDING MATERIALS

8.70	Alleghenon	12	..	..	1.8
177.60	Alumasc▼	449	..	2.2	19.0
1,416.20	APB Ind	281	+ 5	4.0	11.2
36.20	Baggeridge Brk	94	+ 2	4.2	8.9
136.10	Bardon†	34½	- ½	10.2	11.9
11.00	Brockhse	44	+ 2	..	1.1
2,165.00	Blue Circle†	394	+ 7	5.0	13.4
22.30	Braidon PLC	70	..	6.4	14.4
19.20	Br Dredging†	110	..	6.4	14.4
1,459.40	CRH	423	+ 5	2.5	15.9
2.38	Calahonel Rby	36	..	3.3	..
76.50	Carpet	146	- 6	8.4	11.3
1,132.00	Cardinal†	169	- 7	6.3	9.8
191.70	Caradon pl	109½	- 1	8.8	..
1.63	Chellaln Gp	19	..	13.2	..
3.05	Dyson (JB)†	185	- 3	2.7	15.5
11.70	Dyson 'A'	81	..	6.2	8.7
27.40	Eclipse Blinds	32	- 3	..	75.4
55.70	Ennit	258	..	4.3	13.9
1.61	Gibbs & Dandy	95	..	4.2	..
248.70	Graham Eqpt	178	- 1	3.8	15.6
114.70	Halstead (JH)	376	+ 1	2.8	..
705.10	Hanson†	379	+ 2	5.4	13.4
4.60	Hawtelson	23	+ 1	7.2	5.5
11.80	Heath (L)	91	..	..	..
201.60	Hepworth	94	+ 1	8.3	10.7
176.10	Redland	394	+ 2	3.4	10.5
34.20	Johnston	359	+ 2	4.2	7.4
24.80	Lilleshall†	97	..	7.6	10.4
356.70	Marley†	197	+ 1	5.5	9.4
161.20	Marshalls	348	- 2	4.3	11.5
438.00	Meggitt	348	- 2	4.3	11.5
165.50	Newman Tbs	129½	- 1½	6.7	11.5
146.80	Norcros	65	+ 2	5.1	..
5.24	Pilkwick Timber	16	..	..	..
1,683.40	Pilkington	197½	+ 13	2.9	14.8
270.10	Polypipe†	172	- 2	3.8	16.1
2,447.40	RMC Rg▼	1803	- 10	2.7	13.7
1.06	Ransus	4½	+ ½	..	..
1,760.50	Redbank†	340	+ 2	6.1	10.5
1,248.00	Redland	351	..	5.1	11.0
72.50	Rotherslat†	158	..	5.1	12.1
720.00	Rugby Group†	118	+ 7	4.6	14.6
24.50	Ruskin (W)†	105	+ 11	3.1	14.4
197.00	SIG†	267	+ 2	2.7	11.5
3.38	SWP	13	..	1.9	..
33.10	Shape & Elefant	157	..	4.8	12.5
120.20	Spring Ram	29½	+ ½	2.4	..
768.40	Stanley†	238	- 4	5.3	12.5
14.30	Thos	138	..	4.4	10.1
321.40	Tarmi Perkins	312	+ 1	3.6	13.1
3.16	Tarkor†	28	- 1	3.2	17.2
1.07	Waterloose	8	..	..	..
468.10	Wickes	169	+ 4	3.1	13.2
2,202.50	Wellesley	369	+ 4	3.1	13.2

BUSINESS SERVICES

6.80	Anglo Utd	7½	..	..	..
19.70	App Holo	6	+ ½	..	..
3.30	Bailey (CH)	5	..	..	..
11.00	Black Arrow	44	+ 4	5.6	7.1
3.48	Br Shandwick	85	..	..	27.4
2.50	Cntrl Gp	4	..	1.7	22.7
2.88	Chemex	7½	..	3.7	10.5
17.40	Cmall	151	+ 1	6.6	16.2
77.80	Hays	287	+ 12	1.7	19.5
6.31	Hemdon	19	..	..	36.0
103.30	Hoskyns	434	+ 16½	2.2	19.6
85.00	Logic	138	- 3	7.5	12.5
23.40	Mallo Gp	182	..	5.9	8.7
102.60	Parka-Mky	197	..	3.7	14.8
18.50	Pizel & Gas	31	..	5.8	15.5
1.85	Radius	1½	..	..	..
165.80	Shanks & McEwan	90	- 3½	4.6	19.0
43.80	Sheltair (WWT)	288	..	4.7	..
1,207.70	Waste Mgt Int	302	+ 8	..	12.2
41.80	Waste Recys	126	..	1.2	27.3

CHEMICALS

467.10	Allbright & Wil†	148	- 9	5.0	15.7
704.50	Allied Colloids	133	..	7.4	10.6
38.40	Amber Ind	245	+ 7	2.9	4.1
27.20	Ashdown Gp	61	+ 2½	3.2	10.1
8,076.60	BASF DM	£138½	-82½	..	..
4,170.30	BOC	977	- 9	5.0	15.9
444.40	BTP	£454½	-208	3.5	..
11,403.80	Bayer (NHS)	£54½	- 2½	..	..
111.50	Bogden	154	- 6	..	..
56.10	Brent Chemist	93	- 1	4.8	22.7
488.30	Br Vita†	223	- 1	4.1	15.6
66.50	Canning (W)†	298	- 5	4.9	15.5
1,578.50	Chemlawle	951	..	3.2	15.3
466.80	Croda†	219	- 1	3.3	14.3
31.80	Dartford	263	- 5	4.6	15.3
259.30	Elis & Everard	263	- 5	2.5	25.2
37.50	Evre Colour	97	- 2	2.5	17.5
21.20	Gibson	29	+ 1	5.2	8.4
174.20	Hickson†	£163½	+ 9½	3.1	..
9,676.40	Hoechst	185½	..	3.2	13.7
388.60	Holiday Chem	169	- 5	4.8	14.7
5,575.20	ICI	966	..	5.6	24.9
412.90	Inspec	112	- 10	5.1	12.8
398.90	Kalon	182	+ 12	2.4	17.2
1,617.60	Laporte†	710	- 2	2.9	12.5
36.00	MFM	315	- 9	4.4	14.2
125.40	Manchest†	43	- 1	4.1	14.4
18.40	Medeva	62	+ 4½	4.7	19.5
32,821.60	Monsanto	375	+ 20	1.7	27.4
92.20	Porvair	231	+ 1	3.3	18.9
357.90	Scapa	260	+ 12	1.7	37.2
17.00	Scapa Spark	28½	..	8.8	12.6
7,943.00	Schmid Chem	248	..	3.4	18.8
58.50	Wellington Hdg	1013	- 10	2.7	17.2
76.00	Wiltshire Pt	277	- 28	5.9	15.5
128.90	Yates Chem	177	- 3	3.2	16.8
318.60	Yule Catbol	318	- 3	2.9	16.8

DISTRIBUTORS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
33.00	ABI Lee	100	..	5.2	11.5
23.60	Acorn & Harvey	550	..	4.0	6.5
5.64	Alexanders	14	..	6.2	23.0
56.90	Appleyard	90	- 15	6.3	9.7
9.19	ASL Br Eng	3½	..	2.1	28.5
151.60	BOS Group	577	..	4.2	16.6
46.50	Bandi	33	+ 2	..	..
5.84	Blooms Power	16½	+ ½	7.6	8.1
1.26	Bogen 'A'	26	..	3.4	9.3
208.70	Brahmani	440	- 20	3.6	17.0
4.57	Bridgend Gp	17	..	1.5	..
33.00	Bst Prospect	84	- 3	4.8	12.7
8.35	CalMac	253	..	5.7	18.0
9.18	Central Mtr	67	- 1	5.1	18.2
22.70	Cook (DC)	53	- 4½	3.5	7.6
458.20	Cooke	282	- 13	4.2	12.2
32.20	Dag Motorcyl	130	- 3	6.8	11.0
22.40	Dennises G	356	- 6	1.5	11.2
242.60	Diploma	434	+ 1	4.8	14.2
1,357.50	Electrocomps	324	+ 10	2.2	23.6
1,157.40	Eurotec Elec	236	- 2	2.5	16.3
57.80	Eurodentair	118	- 4½	8.3	7.1
55.20	Evered Mtr	163	- 2	6.1	8.6
37.60	Exos Hamilton	304	- 5	2.6	15.9
912.50	Farmer Eletct	689	+ 4	1.8	18.5
10.20	Fin Ingrat	66	..	6.2	10.0
21.50	Gardner	60	- ½	5.1	8.8
7.85	Glenchewton	36	- 3	1.4	..
7.62	Gowrings	85	..	3.3	14.1
19.60	Harris (Philip)	180	+ 16	4.9	12.5
79.00	Headlam†	190	+ 4	2.9	16.5
256.30	Henleys	496½	+ 14½	2.5	18.5
3.77	Holders Tech	121	..	6.2	23.0
56.00	ISA Instl	74	- 11	2.1	19.3
1,568.20	Jacksonsart	297	..	1.3	16.5
6.48	Jacks (Wmyt)	60	- 1	1.6	11.4
362.50	Kent-Fit	175	- 5	3.5	15.0
354.50	Lex Service	374	- 20	5.7	16.7
29.10	Lookers	149	+ 1	6.4	8.3
17.50	Mdand Gp	104½	..	6.6	14.5
52.70	Maclesex	87½	- 2	4.6	9.4
19.00	Mcalpines	37½	..	2.7	..
49.40	Norbain	475	- 14	1.3	16.3
45.00	Northern Bee	153	+ 34	9.8	12.6
12.20	PCT†	137	..	7.0	9.8
104.60	Pendragon	272½	- 9	3.9	14.2
40.60	Perry Grp†	168	- 6	6.1	11.9
30.50	Quality Group	131	- 12	9.5	11.2
15.00	REA	168	- 3	3.0	20.0
4.43	Rence	7	..	..	..
24.20	Ronson	54	+ 1	2.9	11.0
4.43	Ross Gp	5	..	..	..
55.20	S&P Ball	59½	- ½	2.5	19.8
26.00	Sallins	10½	- 1½	..	6.0
30.20	TLS	67	+ 3	3.5	11.4
135.70	Time Products	255	- 3	4.6	14.7
116.90	Vanry (Hdg)	262	- 14	2.9	26.0
43.30	Wholesale Fbs	87	- 2	4.8	11.9
63.30	Wilcher	74½	+ 2	1.5	19.4
44.30	Wyko	87	..	1.8	..
14.80	Young (H)	89	..	5.1	13.6

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

114.50	Ashtead†	139	- 3	7.0	..
480.50	Ashtonpatnt	293	- 13	1.9	13.8
15,681.10	Bodge Hill	866	+ 6	2.8	..
12,852.90	BTR†	335	+ 5	2.2	14.5
16,248.10	BMT†	926	+ 1	5.4	12.2
224.40	Bensteel Ind	148	- 6	1.3	39.2
192.50	Bisley (J)	123	+ 6	5.8	22.8
1,242.20	Bowley Ite	467½	..	9.3	7.6
717.00	Chemrex	808	- 14	3.4	13.4
1,982.90	Coalcourt	283½	+ 1½	3.1	18.7
98.70	Crampton Hdgt	142	- 1	5.1	15.0
9,948.00	Hanson	191	- 5	7.8	10.5
1,041.30	Harrlss Cndlff	147	..	7.7	15.6
12,710.80	Hawk Whmp	1251½	+ 10½	2.2	19.2
2,774.30	Jardine Matth	386	+ 8	4.1	7.9
4.68	Jourdan (T)	36	..	6.1	8.9
1,227.00	Lowndes	150	..	3.6	12.5
95.10	McLeod Russel	151	..	5.1	15.2
35.00	Perlec Cheshire	37	..	..	13.6
506.40	Powell Duffryn	568	+ 11	5.3	15.5
35.10	Repsol	166	- 1	6.6	16.3
3,354.90	Slime Darby	154	- 4	3.0	14.6
244.50	Stanley	213	..	5.1	12.8
218.20	Sutcrf	186	- 4	6.5	12.4
430.40	TT Group	269	+ 4	2.6	15.1
2,920.00	Tomkins	246	- 1½	4.4	13.7
245.10	Tomkyn H	229½	+ ½	6.6	..
57.40	Unidare	36	..	2.7	5.0
97.70	Wardle Storeys	263	- 2	5.6	19.0
515.80	Wassall†	240	- 4	2.7	13.1
78.50	Watkerott	178	..	3.0	14.3
1,815.40	Williams Hdg	313	- 4	5.5	14.8

ELECTRICITY

1,730.90	East Midlands	895	+ 31	4.1	12.1
2,448.00	Eastern Gp	976	+ 2	3.6	13.0
1,789.30	London Elec	988	+ 4	4.0	12.0
1,017.60	Manweb	1080	- 9	4.0	13.5
1,948.00	Midlands	1000	+ 9	4.0	10.8
5,764.40	National Power	484	- 3	4.0	10.8
6,410.00	Nat Power P/P	194	- 3	3.9	10.7
957.50	Northern Elec	576	- 5	5.1	8.2
819.20	Nthn Ireland	442	- 27	3.6	10.8
1,888.30	Norweb	1119	- 12	3.9	12.4
4,671.20	Powergen	569	- 7	3.3	11.5
1,457.30	PowerGen (PP)	249	- 8	3.3	12.4
1,284.80	Hydro-Elect	537	- 2	5.2	9.8
3,266.50	Scottish Power	358	- 4	4.9	10.4
1,933.10	Scotpower	531	+ 15	4.5	11.4
858.40	Sth Wales	826	+ 16	4.1	9.6
998.90	Sth Western	998	..	3.9	10.6
2,607.20	Southern Elec	1055	- 3	4.6	10.5
1,854.10	Yorkshire Elec	1055	+ 12	4.2	11.3

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

97.10	Acal	505	..	1.8	20.1
130.30	Acorn Comp	145	..	..	..
38.30	Admiral	263	- 3	1.3	28.5
119.40	Alba	282	- 2	2.6	17.3
333.50	Amstrad†	288	- 2	4.3	..
28.30	Aten	38	- 1	2.6	13.2
382.60	Autocr	117½	+ ½	1.4	18.3
118.60	Avtex	555	+ 45	0.6	40.4
898.40	BOOT	334	- 8	5.2	14.9
74.50	Bell Hunter	291	..	3.4	14.2
142.40	Bibby	142	- 36	3.2	14.9
626.00	Brentnwood†	429	+ 4	2.7	19.8
1.26	Bryan Power	16½	+ ½	7.6	8.1
208.70	Brohmann†	440	- 20	3.6	17.0
4.57	Bridgend Gp	17	..	1.5	..
33.00	Bst Prospect	84	- 3	4.8	12.7
8.35	CalMac	253	..	5.7	18.0
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7.85	Glenchewton	36	- 3	1.4	..
7.62	Gowrings	85	..	3.3	14.1
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30.50	Quality Group	131	- 12	9.5	11.2
15.00	REA	168	- 3	3.0	20.0
4.43	Rence	7	..	..	..
24.20	Ronson	54	+ 1	2.9	11.0
4.43	Ross Gp	5	..	..	..
55.20	S&P Ball	59½	- ½	2.5	19.8
26.00	Sallins	10½	- 1½	..	6.0
30.20	TLS	67	+ 3	3.5	11.4
135.70	Time Products	255	- 3	4.6	14.7
116.90	Vanry (Hdg)	262	- 14	2.9	26.0
43.30	Wholesale Fbs	87	- 2	4.8	11.9
63.30	Wilcher	74½	+ 2	1.5	19.4
44.30	Wyko	87	..	1.8	..
14.80	Young (H)	89	..	5.1	13.6

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

5.91	AAF Inds	26	- 1	..	..
21.70	Aitken Stewart	255	..	3.9	5.9
16.40	Amaco	44½	- ½	5.6	..
139.90	Avon Rubber	524	+ 7	4.0	18.9
1,112.80	BBA†	269	+ 8	2.3	..
172.00	BSG	97½	+ 2½	6.9	12.3
5.72	Bassett Group	4	..	3.8	..
50.70	Bostrerd	302	- 9½	2.6	16.7
12.50	Boostrad	19	..	6.6	..
23.50	Cambelle	9½	- ½	3.6	6.5
27.50	Cmf	281	..	10.1	10.5
73.70	First Tech	454	- 21	1.9	17.2
2,795.50	GKN	801	+ 4	3.5	16.4
19,984.60	General Mtr	2812½	+37½	2.7	..
10,078.10	Honda Motor	1115½	- 10½	0.3	..

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Associated British Foods, Blacks Leisure, British Airways (Q2), Business Post Group, EID Parry (India), Johnson Fry Second Utilities, Prowting, Safeland, Seton Healthcare, Whitecroft, Voyageur European Smaller. **Finals:** Fleming Chinese Investment Trust, Lynx Holdings, Stratagem Group. **Economic statistics:** Index of production (September), cyclical indicators of the UK economy (October).

TOMORROW

Interims: Amersham International, Bath Press Group, Boustead, British Petroleum (Q3), BSkyB (Q1), Capital Gearing Trust, Hartlepool Water, London Insurance Market Investment Trust, Marks & Spencer, Mercury Asset Management, Montanaro UK Smaller Companies, National Power, Powerscreen International. **Finals:** Allied Domecq, Anglian Water, Broadgate Investment Trust, Mercury Keystone Investment Trust, MMT Computing, Scottish National Trust, UPF Group, WEW Group. **Economic statistics:** Advance energy statistics (October).

WEDNESDAY

Interims: BAT Industries (Q3), Cullen's Holdings, Electrocomponents, First Ireland Investment Co, Fleming Far Eastern Investment Trust, German Investment Trust, Henderson Administration Group, Nynex Cablecomms (Q3), Raglan Properties, Scottish Power, Telewest (Q3), Vosper Thornycroft. **Finals:** Gartmore European, Hambro Insurance Service, Lowland Investment, Lyons Irish Holdings. **Economic statistics:** Index of production for Scotland (Q2), Welsh agricultural statistics No 17 (1995), CBI/BSL regional trends survey (October), Bank of England *Inflation Report* (November), Bank of England *Quarterly Bulletin* (Q3).

THURSDAY

Interims: Appleby Westward, British Telecom (Q2), Cedardata, Central European, B Elliott, First Ireland Investment, Northumbrian Water Group, Porter Chadburn, Regalian Properties, Royal Insurance Holdings (Q3), Staveley Industries, Umeco, Warner Howard. **Finals:** Asset Management Investment Co, Bett Brothers, Burton Group, Clyde Blowers, Orb Estates, Villiers Group, Willis Corroon (Q4). **Economic statistics:** New earnings survey part E: 1995 analyses by region and age group, new earnings survey part F: 1995 distribution of hours; joint distribution of earnings and hours: analyses of earnings and hours for part-time women and employees, labour market trends, travel trends.

FRIDAY

Interims: Banner Homes, Investment Company, Quadrant Group, Somic, Unilever. **Finals:** J Bibby & Sons. **Economic statistics:** UK business in Europe, usable steel production (October), Confederation of British Industry survey of distributive trades (October).

COMPANIES  PHILIP PANGALOS

BA continues its steady climb

BRITISH AIRWAYS: Strong traffic growth and further benefits from productivity gains will help BA to record another set of impressive results when the airline reports interim figures today.

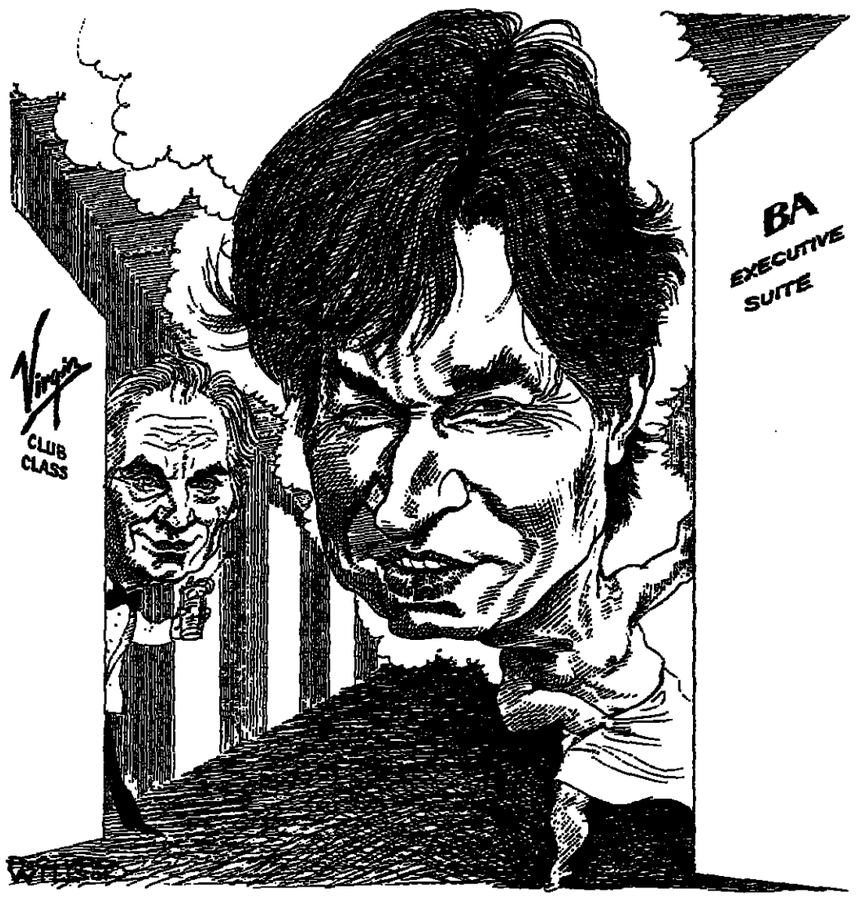
The industry continues to enjoy strong passenger demand at a time when there are only limited increases in capacity, while BA's load factors remain high. Major airlines worldwide have been reporting strong results so far this year as continued growth in traffic absorbs past overcapacity, with average fare levels firming.

BA should also benefit from lower depreciation and aircraft lease costs as well as a fall in the cost of fuel.

The company reported a 57 per cent jump in first-quarter pre-tax profits to £135 million. Mark McVicar at NatWest Securities expects second-quarter pre-tax profits to climb to £290 million (£267 million), giving £425 million (£354 million) for the half year. Forecasts range from £400 million to £440 million, with a dividend of between 3.8p and 4p (3.5p) predicted.

The interim results come after Friday's surprise news that Robert Ayling, managing director, will replace Sir Colin Marshall as BA's chief executive from January.

Analysts will look to Mr Ayling for news on current trading and prospects, as well as an update on BA's US strategy and any plans for its near-25 per cent stake in USAir, its US partner.



Robert Ayling, who will become chief executive, is expected to give an update on BA strategy

ASSOCIATED BRITISH FOODS: The cash-rich food manufacturer, whose products span Sunblest bread to Silver Spoon sugar, is expected to turn in a robust performance when it reports full-year figures today, in spite of tough underlying conditions.

Merrill Lynch expects a recovery in investment income to help to drive final pre-tax profits up to £360 million from £297 million previously, with a dividend of 17p (16p) predicted.

Operating profits are forecast to rise 6 per cent, but Merrill has pencilled in investment income of £36 million, compared with a loss of £9 million last time. Market forecasts range from £340 million to £365 million.

MARKS & SPENCER: Tomorrow's interim figures from M&S, Britain's most profitable retailer, will paint a clearer picture of the health of the high street.

Tony Shiret at BZW expects interim pre-tax profits of between £380 million and £385 million (£358 million). Market forecasts are from £375 million to £385 million. A dividend of between 3p and 3.15p is predicted (2.8p).

ALLIED DOMECQ: The drinks-to-retailing group is unlikely to have good news on increases in underlying spirits profits when it unveils annual profits tomorrow. Underlying spirits profits are unlikely to grow as volume and price increases in mature markets remain elusive, while group profits have also been hit by the sharp devaluation in the Mexican peso.

John Spicer at SBC Warburg has pencilled in clean final pre-tax profits of £640 million for the year to August 31, with a final dividend of 12.5p predicted. There is no direct profit comparison as a result of a change in the group's year end. Market forecasts range from £625 million to £670 million. Mr Spicer expects restructuring charges of up to £100 million.

ANGLIAN WATER: Anglian continues the privatised water companies' interim reporting season with first-half figures tomorrow. Lakis Athanasiou at UBS is looking for first-half pre-tax profits to climb to £125 million (£120.6 million). UBS expects the interim dividend to rise to between 9p and 9.7p (8p), depending on whether Anglian decides to rebalance its payments. Market profit forecasts range from £122 million to £127 million.

BRITISH PETROLEUM: Tomorrow also sees BP release third-quarter figures. Stronger chemical profits are expected to help net income at the oil giant surge to reach £513 million (£415 million), according to UBS.

NATIONAL POWER: Tomorrow's first-half pre-tax profits from the power generator, which is in the process of taking over Southern Electric in a £2.8 billion deal, are expected to advance to £250 million (£211 million), according to UBS. The interim dividend is predicted to rise to 5.1p (4.25p). National Power's UK generating profits are expected to be down because of the impact of the hot weather on demand and increased competition, but interest charges should fall and income from overseas should rise.

BAT INDUSTRIES: Nyren Scott-Malden at BZW expects third-quarter pre-tax profits from the tobacco-to-financial services giant to advance to £610 million (£549 million), giving £1.76 billion (£1.49 billion) for the nine months. Market forecasts range from £1.76 billion to £1.8 billion.

Strong volume growth from BAT's tobacco operations will be the main driving force behind the group's profits advance.

BRITISH TELECOM: Second-quarter figures on Thursday are expected to show modest growth, with the effects of competition and regulation restricting BT's profits advance.

Oftel, the industry regulator, has said the current requirement on BT to cut phone bills each year by 7.5 per cent below the rate of inflation will last at least until the end of July 1997. Merrill Lynch expects pre-tax profits to rise to £790 million (£712 million), with market forecasts ranging from £745 million to £790 million. An interim dividend of between 7.4p and 7.5p (7.05p) is predicted.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

City looks for tax-cut clue

The centrepiece of this week's British economic calendar is publication on Wednesday of the Bank of England's latest *Quarterly Bulletin* and *Inflation Report*. The timing is particularly interesting given that it comes out less than three weeks before the Budget.

The report is expected to acknowledge that inflationary pressures seem to have started to tail off along with the slowing in the rate of economic expansion. The Bank has backed off from its calls for higher interest rates but it by no means certain that the Bank will let the Government off the hook completely by predicting that it will manage to hit its inflation target. The City will be interested in any hint of the Bank's attitude on tax cuts.

Other focuses of the week include today's figures for September industrial production and manufacturing output. The consensus of forecasts, compiled by MMS International, predicts that industrial production will rise 0.4 per cent, having been flat in August, and that manufacturing will increase 0.2 per cent, well below the 0.6 per cent rise in August.

Also today, cyclical indicators for October are released. These have been giving ambiguous signals about the path of the economy. The longer leading index has pointed downwards for some time, the shorter leading index rose a little in July and August while the coincident indicator has been flat. Given evidence of the economy slowing, it would be expected that the coincident index should be moving downwards.

At the end of the week, the CBI's distributive trades survey is published, which will give the latest snapshot of activity in retailing, wholesaling and the motor trades. The markets will also focus on US prices data in view of the policy-making Federal Open Markets Committee meeting on November 15. US producer prices figures are published on Thursday.

JANET BUSH

SUNDAY TIPS

Independent on Sunday: **Buy** Amersham International, Wm Morrison Supermarkets; **Sell** Ransomes. *The Sunday Telegraph*: **Buy** P&O, Ugland International; **Hold** Moorfield Estates. *The Sunday Times*: **Buy** Simon Engineering, Stratagem; **Hold** Marks & Spencer; **Sell** Reed Executive. *The Observer*: **Buy** Prudential; **Avoid** Rolls-Royce. *The Mail on Sunday*: **Buy** Asda; **Sell** BSkyB.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.19	2.03
Austria Sch	16.82	15.32
Belgium Fr	49.21	44.91
Canada $	2.231	2.071
Cyprus Cyp£	0.755	0.700
Denmark Kr	9.32	8.52
Finland Mkk	7.33	6.68
France Fr	8.16	7.51
Germany Dm	2.40	2.19
Greece Dr	385.00	360.00
Hong Kong $	12.85	11.85
Ireland Pt	1.03	0.95
Israel Shk	5.1700	4.5200
Italy Lira	2625.00	2470.00
Japan Yen	178.00	162.00
Malta	0.597	0.542
Netherlds Gld	2.671	2.441
New Zealand $	2.55	2.33
Norway Kr	10.50	9.70
Portugal Esc	247.50	229.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.43
Spain Pta	200.50	187.50
Sweden Kr	11.12	10.32
Switzerland Fr	1.94	1.76
Turkey Lira	refer	77636.0
USA $	1.676	1.546

Rates for small denomination banknotes as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates for travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Global trends call the tune for British bonds

Reports that the Chancellor has succeeded in cutting about £3 billion from agreed public spending plans for 1996-97 should let him make modest tax reductions in the Budget without causing undue dismay in the gilt market. The temptation to go for more of a tax giveaway is unlikely to be compelling at this stage if our view, admittedly risky, that this Parliament will now run its full course proves right. However, this fact could, perversely, leave the fixed interest market more vulnerable through 1996, fearing what Kenneth Clarke may be pressed to do if Conservative fortunes are little improved 12 months on. Gilts may also be adversely affected by the impact on sterling of political uncertainty. More fundamentally, while economic growth continues to slow and the official measure of average earnings is rising at an underlying rate of only 3.25 per cent, higher pay deals and a tailing-off in productivity gains are already exerting upward pressure on unit labour costs, which should feed through into inflation.

On the face of it, this is not a particularly favourable backdrop for the gilt market. However, by focusing almost exclusively on domestic factors, investors may be overlooking the more important global influences on UK bonds. The most significant influence is the trend in overseas bond markets, notably US Treasuries. We have found that, for every 50 basis points move in US bond yields, gilt yields adjust by 25bp. So what of the outlook for US bond yields?

Pressures on US inflation remain downward. Latest data show employment costs rising at their slowest this decade. Third-quarter GDP figures showed that, while growth was stronger than expected, inflation was less than expected. The Federal Reserve has indicated that the prospect of stability in inflation could lead to lower interest rates, and maybe the bond market is taking this prospect to heart. However, looking to the latter stages of next year, the risk is that inflation could still pick up. By then, the US expansion will be more mature and the economy will be running at, or near to, capacity. In contrast to this year's consistently good "news flow" on inflation, next year's news flow may be more mixed, pushing up bond yields.

This background for US bonds suggests that there is bound to be some upward pressure on gilt yields next year. If US bond yields rise during 1996 by about 100bp, we would expect gilt yields to rise by about 50bp before allowing for local influences.

GILT-EDGED

There is potentially a positive long-term influence on gilt yields which has to do with the US budget deficit. In the medium to long term, bond yields are likely to be influenced by the move in Congress to introduce legislation aimed at phasing out the budget deficit. Although Congress has a more aggressive agenda for achieving the objective than does President Clinton, there is still a general desire to eliminate the budget deficit early in the new millennium. However, there is controversy over the impact of budget deficits on long-term interest rates. Although the view that budget deficits have an adverse impact is widely held, the evidence is far from conclusive. Our work indicates that bond yields would be lower if the budget debate is resolved successfully. Estimates show that a one percentage point reduction in the budget deficit, when expressed as a percentage of US GDP, would cut bond yields by about 60bp in the long term. Outright elimination of the budget deficit, currently about 2.3 per cent of GDP, would lower bond yields by about 140bp. Translating this to the domestic market, the implication is that gilt yields could fall by about 70bp.

However, this is a long-term result. On a 12-month view, it is hard to be enthusiastic about the outlook for the gilt market. Sentiment is likely to be affected by the possibility of a Labour government and the risk that the present administration will throw caution to the wind to try to secure re-election. Looking beyond this, however, support from the US market could turn positive late in the decade, which could result in the unusual combination of a left-of-centre government in the UK presiding over sharply lower gilt yields.

MICHAEL LENHOFF
SIMON RUBINSOHN
Capel-Cure Myers Capital Management

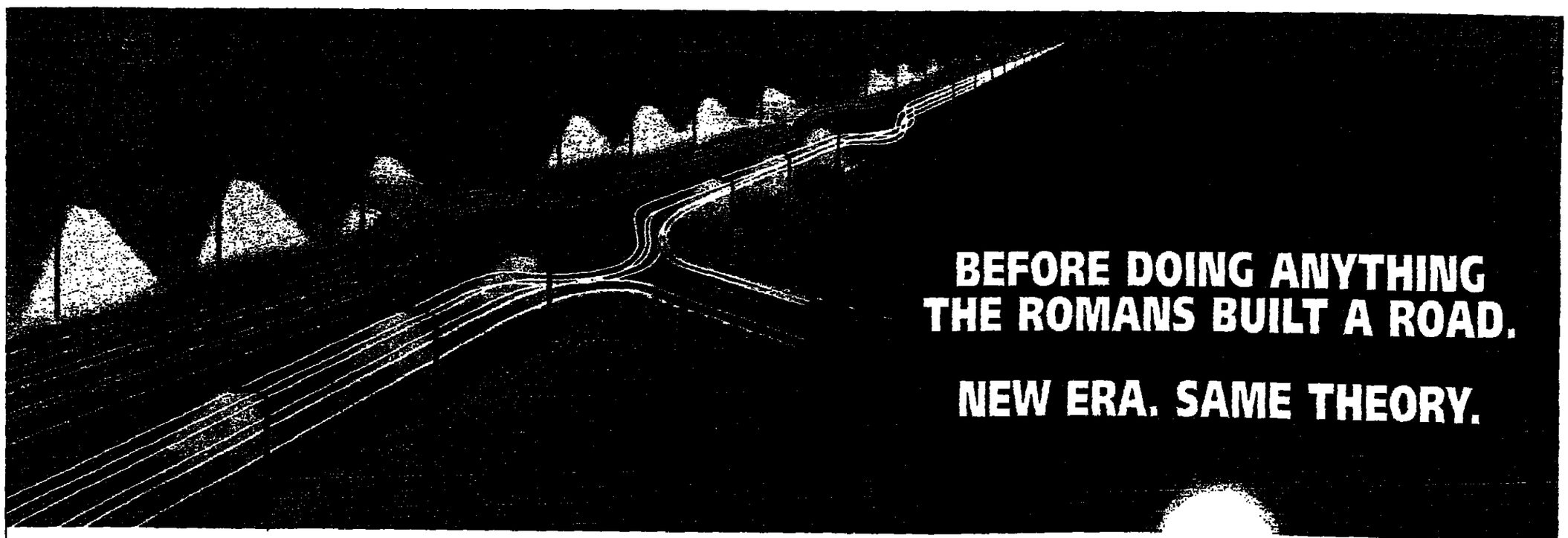
CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5800 (same)
German mark
2.2365 (+0.0237)
Exchange index
84.3 (-0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2564.9 (-0.6)
FT-SE 100
3500.4 (+2.5)
New York Dow Jones
4825.57 (+83.82)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
18028.80 (+691.61)

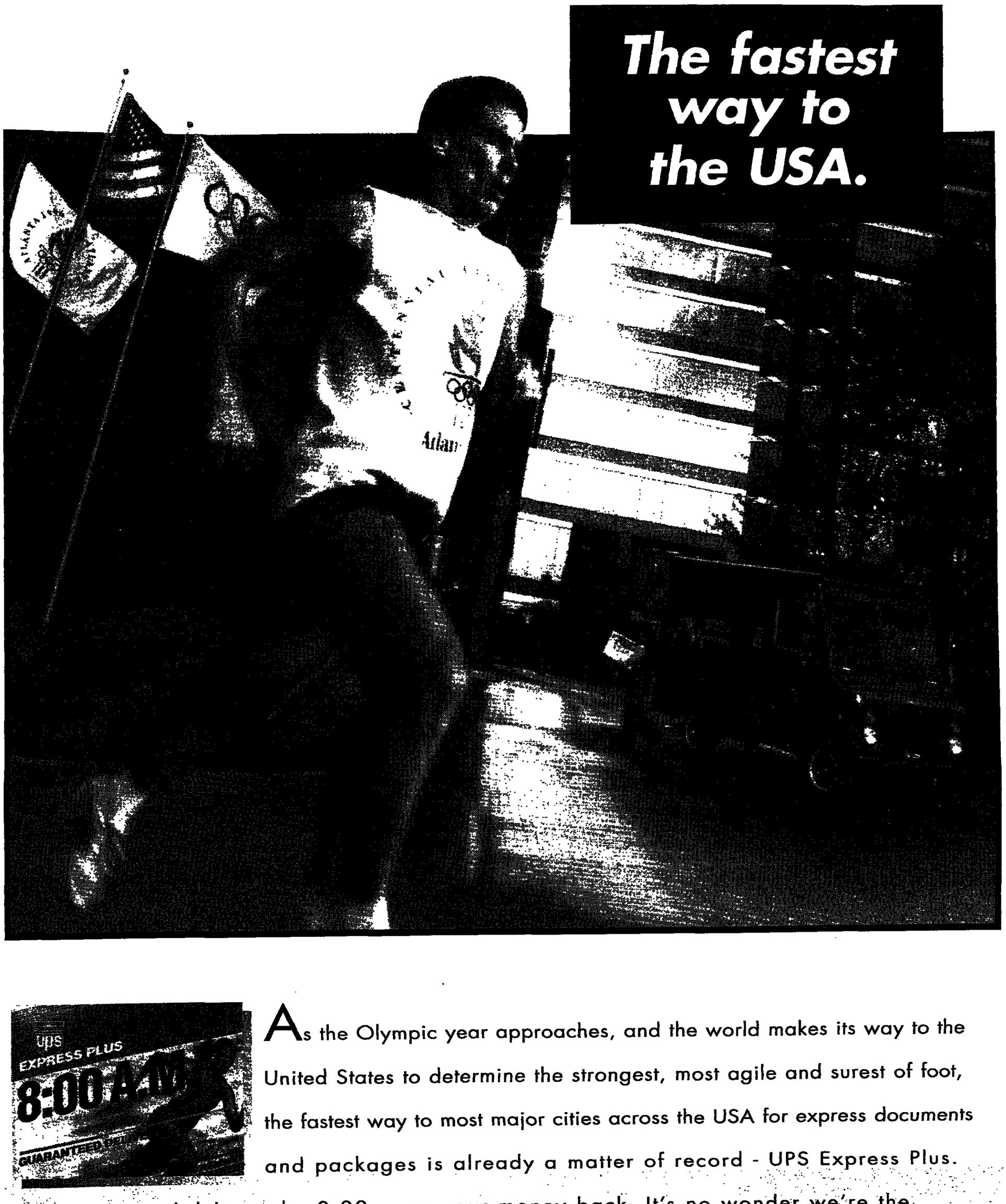


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Ross Tieman meets the new head of Fair Trading

Advocate for the consumer

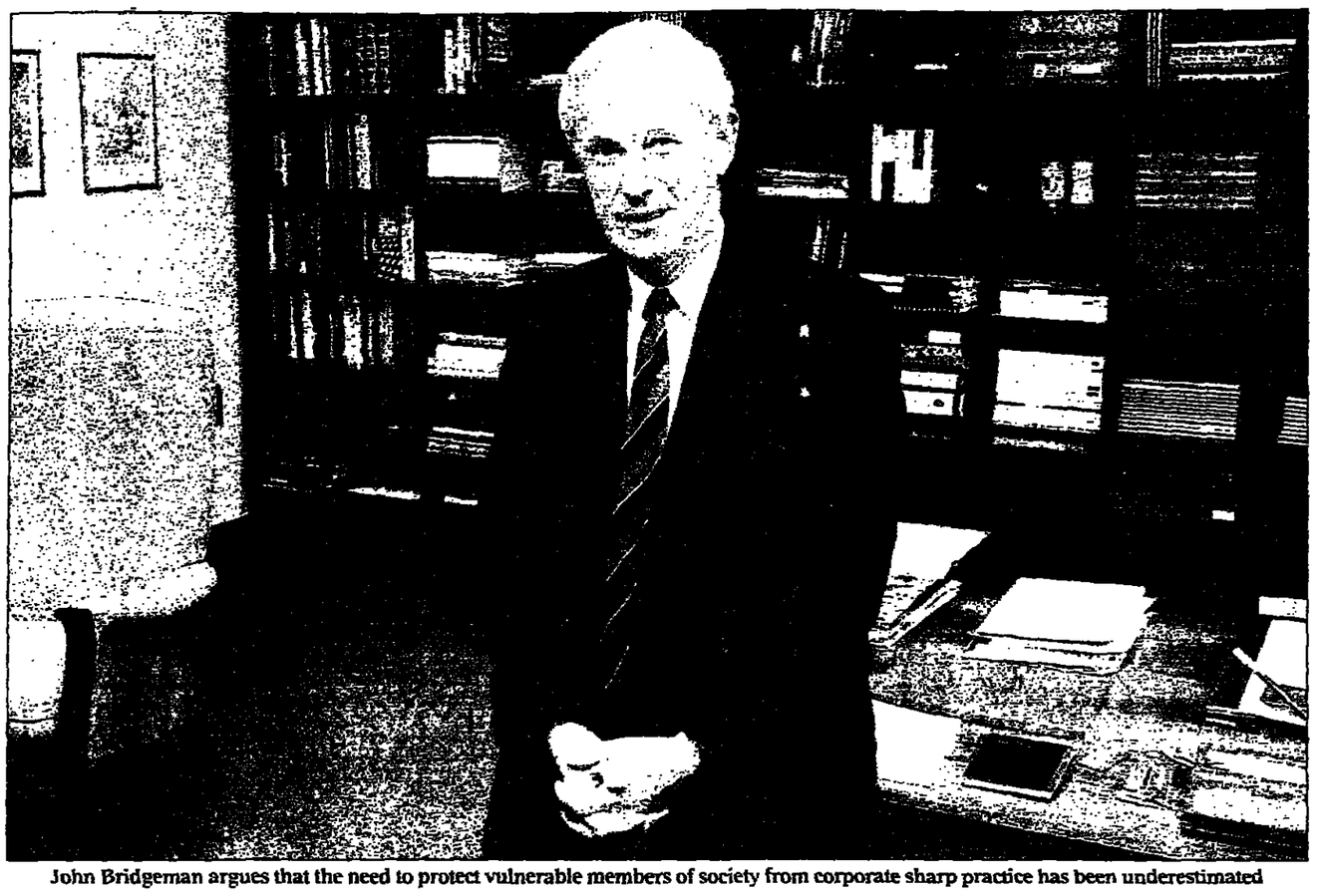
The Office of Fair Trading is about to declare war on companies that use unfair contracts to exploit the elderly, the ill-educated and other vulnerable consumers.

Fair Trading officials have called a series of meetings with companies to warn them that unless they mend their ways of doing business, the OFT will launch a barrage of legal actions.

John Bridgeman, the new £130,000-a-year Director-General of Fair Trading, is keen to use changes in the law earlier this year to stamp out the unfair use of non-refundable deposits and other devices to lock consumers into inappropriate commercial agreements. "We have to get some good precedents in the courts so as to get some good case law," he said. "There will be a steady flood of new cases."

The drive to strengthen consumer protection reflects a belief by Mr Bridgeman, the former chief of British Alcan who took up office a month ago, that we have "underestimated the need" to protect vulnerable members of society from corporate sharp practice.

In his first press interview since taking office, Mr Bridgeman told *The Times*: "The business where I am anxious to put in more horsepower and energy is the world of more general consumer protection."



John Bridgeman argues that the need to protect vulnerable members of society from corporate sharp practice has been underestimated

The new Director-General has already launched a Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC) inquiry into the last remaining bastion of legalised price-fixing in Britain. The MMC has been ordered to study the £10 billion market in branded medicines and vitamin supplements and rule whether price-fixing is really in the best interests of the consumer.

Resale price maintenance in pharmacy products has been permitted under exemptions granted by the restrictive practice court since the 1960s. The belief was that it helped to preserve Britain's 8,000 independent chemist shops, including maintaining a vital service in rural areas and outlying suburbs.

But changing patterns of distribution, and the apparent willingness of some supermarkets to discount some products, has called it into question.

"We know that in theoretical terms resale price maintenance tends to be a cover for inefficient distribution," Mr Bridgeman said. The inquiry into the price of medicines had been under consideration for 18 months. But it was Mr Bridgeman who decided to go ahead, after the breakdown of the Net Book Agreement, which protected inefficient booksellers, earlier this year.

Although a businessman by training, with a 30-year career in the aluminium industry behind him, Mr Bridgeman is also an accomplished business theorist. His belief in the "learning manager" extends to a teaching role as visiting Professor of Management at Keele University.

Combined with six years experience as a part-time member of the MMC, it also gives a firm theoretical basis to his work at the OFT. That theory embraces a belief in the guided evolution of monopoly utilities into competing companies. It will also underpin his thinking when seeking evidence that companies are abusing their market power.

As a former industrial manager and strategist, Mr Bridgeman has no illusions about the motives of businessmen. "In global strategy you are seeking to steal a march on your competitors by any fair means in law," he said. "It is about winning market share. The greater your market share the more you can do to keep out competition. There is no interest in the capitalist world in having competition."

Any company executive worried about the likelihood of an OFT review of his business would do well to study the thinking of Professor Michael Porter, the Harvard luminary. Sketching Professor Porter's model of market efficiency, Mr Bridgeman made plain his determination to watch for any gaps in the "five forces" that Professor Porter suggests are needed to prevent market abuse.

But intellectual rigour alone will not be sufficient to ensure Mr Bridgeman's success in his new role. Last week, Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, rejected Mr Bridgeman's recommendation that the planned takeover of Norweb, the electricity supply company, by North West Water be referred to the MMC.

Speaking before Mr Lang announced his decision, Mr Bridgeman said: "There may be occasions when the national interest is deemed to override that of the consumer. That is a judgment for politicians."

He sees his job at the OFT as that of an advocate speaking for the consumer. "If I believe I have a case, I have to ensure I advocate it in the most powerful way possible," he said. "If I fail, I have to accept it is my responsibility."

Failure at the first trial cannot be easy. Britain's consumers must hope Mr Bridgeman is more successful in his forthcoming battles with Britain's rogue companies than in his first brush with his new boss.

Fraudbusters press for more powers

SFO backs call for law change to combat cross-border crime, says Robert Miller

Law enforcement officers from the world's leading agencies, including the FBI, New Scotland Yard and Interpol, will today call on governments to give them far greater powers to tackle cross-border financial fraud. The Serious Fraud Office has added its voice for legislative changes.

More than 150 delegates, attending a three-day conference in London, want their governments to put tough legislation in place to enable them to co-operate more closely in the fight against international fraud and money laundering. Patrick Moulette, secretary of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering, which consists of 26 governments including the UK, says that the profits from organised crime, amounting to hundreds of billions of dollars, can only be checked "if there is the political will to act".

George Staple, Director of the Serious Fraud Office, who argues that there remain "some very unsatisfactory gaps in our own law", is backing the calls for change by delegates from 20 countries. He told *The Times* at the weekend that governments "should co-operate over these matters rather than compete".

Mr Staple said: "While it is possible to extradite a person from the United States to the UK on a charge of conspiracy to defraud, a most important part of the prosecutor's arsenal, it is not possible actually to prosecute that person for this offence once he is back here. This is because conspiracy to defraud does not appear on a "list" of recognised offences in our Extradition Act. The statute could and should be brought up to date."

He added: "If we are to achieve a more effective response to the growing problem of international fraud, governments at the highest level must recognise the need for greater modernisation of their criminal laws and the need for close co-operation at both the investigation and trial stages."

Brendan Hewson, a vice-president of the US NationsBank, one of the conference sponsors together with the Royal Bank of Scotland and Banco Santander, said: "Fraudsters can go to any airport in the world and take the next flight out to freedom. Law enforcement officers have to go through complicated legal and diplomatic channels and apply for special "Commission Rogatoire" letters."

Mr Hewson, a former senior UK fraud squad officer, added, however, that the international fight against fraud and money laundering will succeed only if banks and financial institutions co-operate wholeheartedly. He said: "Fraud is the disease of the 20th century. If it is not to be the disease of the next century as well, banks and others involved must know their customers and their business. It is no good saying I think and I believe, they must *know*."

Richard Clark, a partner of Slaughter and May, the law firm which last week announced that it had recovered the $8.8 million plus interest and costs lost by the Salvation Army in a sophisticated international fraud, bypassed the criminal law and headed straight to the civil courts in 13 countries. In spite of his success he believes that the recovery of funds on behalf of victims could be made much easier by changes in the law.

Among the countries represented at the conference, entitled *The Prevention of Financial Fraud — towards a global banking standard*, at the QE2 Centre, are the Czech Republic, Mexico, Cyprus and Liechtenstein.



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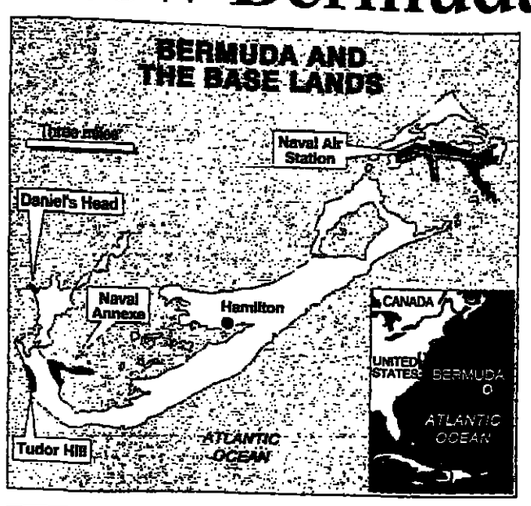
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هكذا من الاصل

Now Bermuda tries to lure in some 'tiger' investors



BY COLIN NARBROUGH

BERMUDA, famous for its mysterious triangle of ocean in which aircraft vanish, faces the dilemma of what it will do with a huge area of land that has just been returned to it.

Grant Gibbons, Bermuda's new Finance Minister, said that the Crown colony had been handed back 1,500 acres, or about 10 per cent of its land mass, which had been British, Canadian and American military bases.

Importantly, the US area includes Bermuda's airport on St David's Island. But the existing buildings and infrastructure on the four sites returned, which used to bring money to the colony, now represent a substantial maintenance cost for the Government, Mr Gibbons said. The end of the Cold War brought the hand-back of the land faster than Bermuda had expected and the Government is now looking for international corporate partners to help it to develop the new territory.

Mr Gibbons, who is keen to attract investors from Britain, said that the big chunk of land Bermuda had to develop was a "tethered goat" and invited "interested tigers" to apply.

Edaw, a United Kingdom consultancy firm, is already working on a land use plan for the Bermuda authorities and Mr Gibbons hopes that the legislation required for the master plan could be put before the assembly this month.

"Obviously, the returned land is a challenge as well an as opportunity," he said. The military bases contributed $50 million to the economy each year. "One of the challenges will be to replace that revenue." Bermuda, which voted overwhelmingly in August in favour of remaining a Crown colony, has a population of only 59,000 and a gross domestic product of $1.9 billion.

Lord Waddington, the former British Cabinet minister, is the current Governor, and the colony's political and economic stability, plus world-class legal, banking and accounting support services have attracted 8,000 international companies to register there.

The international business community includes about 75 per cent of the Fortune Top 100 Companies and its commercial insurance and re-insurance market now ranks alongside Lloyd's of London.

Mr Gibbons emphasised that Bermuda did not intend to rush its development scheme, which will work to a timeframe of 15 to 30 years. Possible uses under consideration are new tourist resorts, a top international golf course, a business-technology park, an international telecommunications and intellectual property storage centre, and light industry. The target is to create 3,000 jobs.

To finance the various projects, the Land Development Corporation will be allowed to raise its own funds in the capital market.

"We hope it won't prove too much for Bermuda," Mr Gibbons said. Although he recognised that developing ten per cent of one's country would be a difficult task, he said the silver lining for the heavily populated area was that it now had more land to play with. "And we hope to earn more with it than the $50 million the bases brought," he said.

Mercury 'is not for sale'

Cable and Wireless yesterday pledged continued support for Mercury Communications after speculation that it was to be hived-off in a restructuring.

A spokesman said: "Mercury is a core business. It is the hub of our European operations and as such we have absolutely no intention of selling it."

Last month, C&W sold Mercury's customer-equipment division to Siemens, the German electronics group, for £40 million. C&W is expected to give more details of disposals and reorganisation next week when it reports *first-half figures.*

Property fall

Property investment showed a decline last month with the return on all property in a monthly index falling below 1 per cent for the first time in two and a half years. The Richard Ellis monthly index, found the total returns over the year are 0.6 per cent for all property; -2.8 per cent for industrial property; 1.4 per cent for offices and 1.1 per cent for downtown retail.

Tax plea

Alan Davies, Barclays chief economist, is urging the Chancellor to take a cautious approach to tax *cuts in the Budget. He* said that unless any tax giveaways were matched by reductions in public spending, they would trigger the need for higher interest rates.

Inquiry ends

United Airlines, the largest US airline, will today conclude a month-long inquiry into the possibility of a takeover of USAir, in which British Airways has a 24 per cent stake.

Pension plan

Ernst & Young, the accountant, has linked with Lane Clark & Peacock, the actuary, to develop a corporate pensions service.

Government close to sale of BR rolling stock

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is on the brink of selling British Rail's entire stock of 12,000 locomotives and passenger coaches in a deal aimed at giving a major boost to the ailing privatisation programme.

The sale of the three rolling stock leasing companies (Roscos), which will rent trains to the new private rail operators, is seen as a linchpin of the entire sell-off and is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

The Government and its adviser are believed to have selected "preferred bidders" for the three companies, Angel Train Contracts, Eversholt Leasing and Porterbrook, from a shortlist of five.

Last-minute negotiations with Hambros Bank, the Government's adviser on the sale, are holding up the signing of contracts, but an announcement is possible this week, according to industry experts.

Management buyout teams are thought likely to be awarded the contracts for Eversholt and Porterbrook, with venture capital backing from Candover and Charterhouse respectively.

The lone non-management buyer is a consortium led by Babcock & Brown and Nomura, which is believed to be the preferred bidder for Angel Trains, according to this month's issue of *Rail Privatisation News.*

Although City banks have shown little enthusiasm for the sales, the Roscos are regarded by industry experts as being potentially the most financially attractive companies in the privatised rail industry.

Each will enjoy revenues that are largely protected by contracts for eight to ten years, while the sector will not be saddled with the heavy regulation facing train operators.

The sale of the Roscos, which have book assets estimated at £3 billion, is likely to prove the biggest single revenue earner for the Government from rail privatisation apart from the flotation of Railtrack.

A spokesman for the Department of Transport refused to comment on the timing of the sales, but said that the Government remained "very confident that we can meet our target of selling them off before the end of the year".

The sale of the Roscos will open one of the most intense periods of selling activity since the start of the privatisation. Preferred bidders for the first three passenger franchises are expected to be selected next week, with contracts signed by Christmas. The next wave of four franchises will be sold in the first half of next year.

A host of smaller BR subsidiaries are also thought to be close to sale.

About 20 of the 100 companies that made up BR have now been sold. The Railtrack flotation is scheduled to take place in the spring.



Market-bound: Peter Cumins, managing director of Cash Converters, left, and his brother Brian, the chairman

Cash Converters to raise £8m

THE retailer that brought car boot sales to the high street is seeking a stock market listing in London. Cash Converters International, which deals in second-hand goods, plans to raise £8.1 million (Martin Barrow writes).

Cash Converters buys and sells a wide range of goods, from hi-fi sets and computer games to clothes and jewellery. The Australian company has 54 outlets in Britain. Cash Converters was set up in Sydney in 1984 by Brian Cummins, now executive chairman, who was joined by his brother Peter, now managing director, in 1990.

The placing, by Henderson Crosthwaite, will capitalise the company at £24 million, raising £5.2 million for investment. The balance of £2.4 million will go to existing shareholders. The company enjoyed a surge in profits in the year to June 30 to A$2 million (£960,000) from A$500,000 on turnover of A$8.14 million. Directors expect profits of A$1.4 million in the current first half.

It will use the flotation proceeds to expand British outlets to 96 by the end of 1996 and a world total of 371 stores within 12 months, including the first in America, Germany, Ireland and Spain.

MIND-WATCHING

Answers from page 33

MENSEFUL

(c) Considerate, neat and clean. A good word for discreet Personals in the Agony columns. "Menseful lady wishes to meet ditto gent, with a view to discreet exchange of courtesies."

XENOGENOUS

(c) Due to an outside cause, from the Greek for "springing from outside or something alien". Gosh, I am impressed by your clever son's A levels, Catherine. Fancy you and Kevin producing such a genius! Absolutely xenogenous!"

BELLIBONE

(c) According to Dr Johnson's *Dictionary*, "a woman excelling both in beauty and in goodness". Johnson refers to it as "not in present use". From an English shot at the Italian *bella e bona*. Worth reviving for its obvious potentialities in polite discourse.

FRAMBOESIA

(c) A contagious tropical disease, with yellowish or reddish swellings resembling raspberries or strawberries, on the face, genitals, etc. The invoking of visitations by bizarre diseases, or by common diseases portentously named, upon those who offend you is an art in itself. "Thank you, James. And I wish you all the framboesia (quinsy, malanders, rinderpest) in the world."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Ng6! plans to bring the knight to h8 when Black will have to retreat his king to defend the f7-pawn. White would then advance his king to attack the b5-pawn and win easily. If Black tries 1 ... fxg6 2 hxg6 Ke7 then 3 Kd5 also wins as the White b-pawn will cost Black his bishop.

Funds raised on AIM tops £48m

THE number of stocks traded on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) reached 105 as institutional and private investors showed continued interest in the new market for smaller and growing companies (Philip Pangalos writes).

AIM should get a further boost from several venture capital trusts that are in the process of raising funds.

The market started on June 19 with just ten stocks listed, but has grown steadily and seen its total market capitalisation expand to £1.77 billion. The total cash raised on AIM has risen to £48.3 million.

International Greetings, which supplies private label greetings to multiple retailers, enjoyed a strong start on AIM, ending the week at 523p, compared with Tuesday's placing price of 450p.

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price pence	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
13.80	AMCO Corp	97	– 2	5.8	10.7
0.89	Abacus Recrut	17	...	...	...
17.40	A de Grunchy	118	...	6.0	9.8
5.07	African Gold	6	+ ¼	.	..
	Albemarale & Bd	14	...	...	...
40.20	Ann St Brewery	420	+ 10	5.2	11.5
5.18	Ann St Cv Pf	875	...	9.1	..
73.80	Antonov	105	– 1	.	...
11.40	Ask Central	71	...	...	...
	Athelney Trust	55	...	...	...
3.85	Barts Hldgs	15	– 2	..	...
4.30	Belcanto	48	...	..	...
	Bowmoss Lets	145	...	...	...
	Bown Leis Cv Pf	70	...	...	...
4.46	Brancote Hldgs	45	...	...	...
28.60	Brockbank	245	+ 43	3.2	24.5
	CCI Hldgs	115	...	..	..
	CCI Founder Shs	110	...	...	...
3.21	Cafe Inns	115	...	2.2	9.5
8.52	Caledonian Tst	75	...	..	9.1
12.50	Card Clear	63	– 5	..	...
3.65	Cassidy Bros	70	...	5.4	10.0
1.87	Cavendish W F	43	...	...	21.8
	Celtic	5750	...	...	...
	Celtic Pf Shs	6750	...	...	...
15.40	Ci Comms(TV)	114	...	2.7	17.0
13.10	ClubPartners	31	– 2	...	...
7.19	Consler Tst	36	...	2.8	15.4
10.30	Country Gdns	58	– 2	2.6	12.0
2.49	Cstry Gdns Pf	68	...	9.6	...
9.81	DBS Management	145	+ 5	5.2	6.0
	Dalkeith Inns	34	...	...	...
37.50	Dawson Hldgs	820	+ 20	4.4	11.3
3.21	Dean Corp	11	...	...	64.3
92.50	Electrophoretics Intl	143	+ 15	...	...
5.62	Euro Sales Fn	125	...	..	..
	Fairfake	230	+ 5	...	...
	Fint Publs	38	...	...	...
8.50	Firecrest	51	– 1	...	22.2
5.53	Floral St	238	...	...	12.9
9.00	Formecan	96	+ 1	2.7	...
4.55	Furlong Homes	91	..	3.3	4.9
26.00	Gander Hldgs	9	+ ½	...	76.8
5.55	Graduate Apts	33	..	...	39.6
0.27	Grad Apts Wts	25	...	...	.
	Greenhills	19	+ 1	...	...
36.90	Guiton	165	...	3.0	15.0
	Hansom	53	...	...	...
54.50	Hiscox Ded Ins	120	+ 5	0.3	...
	Hiscox Ded p/p	55	...	...	...
11.40	Indpt Radio	114	– 3	...	...
14.20	Inner Workings	85	...	..	...
18.70	Jennings Bros	288	...	2.5	24.7
	KS Bionedix	101	– 2	...	...
23.80	Lancashire Enterprises	132	...	4.7	11.3
	Lawrence	202	+ 2	...	...
55.60	Lawrie Group	2650	...	3.1	14.6
48.40	Le Riches Strs	280	...	6.9	28.4
	Lifehome As Ten	85	...	...	...
19.40	Lon Fiduciary	2	– ¼	...	...
9.80	Lorien Grp	172	+ 22	...	...
5.26	Mellak	83	...	...	37.1
284.20	Memory Corp	480	...	...	...
	Metrodome Films	22	...	...	...
10.20	Moorepay	135	+ 4	3.7	22.3
17.30	MultiMedia	50	– 1	...	...
22.10	NWF Grp	295	...	2.8	14.2
	Nash (Wm)	150	...	5.5	...
8.35	Neill Clerk	330	+ 40	2.3	16.0
5.63	Neilson Cobbold	205	...	2.3	5.0
	Norcity II	63	...	...	...
	Northomes	66	...	...	...
	Nthmb Res Props	71	...	...	...
15.90	Nursing Home	103	– 1	...	...
9.90	Old English Pub	90	+ 4¼	2.8	...
5.24	Omnicare	85	– 1	2.2	14.1
10.90	Omnimedia	61	– 2	...	...
13.30	Pacific Media	1¼	+ ⅛	...	...
	Pacific Med Pf	53	...	...	...
5.56	Pan Andean Res	13⅛	– ½	..	...
4.78	Park Ests(Liv)	200	...	...	...
3.62	Preston Nth E	400	...	...	...
11.20	Riceman Insce	17	+ 2	...	...
12.30	SCS Satellite	120	– 1	...	...
4.01	Scotswood Inds	18	...	6.9	54.8
	Scott Pride	45	...	...	...
13.00	Scrutions	270	...	6.0	11.0
	Silkbarn	2	...	...	...
122.40	Southern News	519	+ 7	3.7	14.5
	Southern Vectis	61	...	...	...
35.50	Stamford Rook	203	+ 7	...	...
9.58	Surrey Fr Inns	95	+ 2	2.4	11.2
47.40	TRACKER Netwk	895	+ 10	...	...
3.84	Tele Cred Eur	38	– 2	...	...
	Tele Cred Wts	31	– 2	..	...
13.40	Toad	108	– 5	..	...
	Trinity Care	175	...	..	..
	Trinity Care Pf	165	...	...	..
	Univest	40	...	...	...
	Utd Auctions	463	+ 5	..	...
	VDC	600	...	...	...
29.10	Versailles Grp	11	+ 3	...	20.9
	Voss	176	– 2	...	...
	Wedderburn Secs	10	– 2	...	..
	Wedd Secs Wnts	4	...	...	...
1.23	Westmount Engy	15	...	.	...
8.97	W'chester M Mid	81	– 2	...	...
	Wynnstay Props	145	...	...	...
	Zergo	150	...	...	...

Schneider fights to stay in US

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

THE New York lawyer acting for Jürgen Schneider, the fugitive German property magnate, whose empire collapsed amid huge debts last year, hopes to prevent Herr Schneider's extradition from America this week.

Michael Lacher, managing partner of Lacher & Lovell-Taylor, the Lexington Avenue law firm, believes that blocking the extradition of Herr Schneider and his wife will be the first step in a fightback by his client that will involve claims for minimum damages of DM6 billion against former creditors, mainly Deutsche Bank.

Herr Schneider and his wife face an extradition hearing in Miami on Wednesday. They were arrested in Florida in May, a year after disappearing when the Schneider empire crumbled amid debts of about DM5 billion.

Mr Lacher said the case the German authorities had made against his client stretched US extradition rules to the very limit.

Battered contractors need urgent repairs

Bright, confident, aggressive would-be managers who are looking for a real challenge should pass by investment banking or the media and test themselves in the construction industry. At the sharp end of big projects, it can be the most stressful, frustrating but rewarding business. It is one of the most important in Britain, accounting for 7 per cent of output, but is in danger of catastrophic decline.

If that sounds alarmist, it is because few, least of all the Treasury, take the industry seriously. The unthinking assume it can shrink or expand at will. The wherewithal to construct, say, the Channel Tunnel, is seen as little more than looking up Yellow Pages to have a have a lean-to built: a few rough, tough entrepreneurs who call up as many casual labourers as they need for the week. Perhaps that is why public projects in Britain are turned on and off at the stroke of a pen. In a sense, the caricature is self-fulfilling. The more primitively the industry is treated, the more degraded it will become.

If pre-Budget leaks from Whitehall prove correct, another blow is about to land. They suggest that much of the public road-building programme is about to be axed. This would not be a response to popular protest. That policy adjustment has already been made. The object would be to cut short-term public spending, at a time when the Department of Transport needs another £700 million a year to finance rail privatisation. Eventually, the Treasury wants to conjure road building off the state balance sheet by shifting far more projects to "private" finance.

Meanwhile, the contractors' ability to manage about half the nation's capital investment, and to deliver the higher investment the economy needs, will be weakened even further. Already, construction makes up the smallest percentage of national output of the main European economies except France, reflecting British companies' focus on cutting costs at the expense of expansion.


GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Things are desperate. Building and construction activity is 2 per cent lower, in real terms, than in 1991. Infrastructure spending is down 8 per cent. And matters are getting worse. In the three months to August 31, orders were 2 per cent lower than in the previous three months and 8 per cent lower than the same months in 1994. Public-sector orders fell 12 per cent year-on-year, private housing 19 per cent. Building employers expect to lose 20,000 jobs by the spring, making half a million since 1990.

Not surprisingly, prices are weak and the industry is in trouble. Most household names, hit also by the housing and property slump, are losing money on UK construction. The better managed have cut back their overheads, shrinking the industry's capacity. Even so, most have seen their finances seriously weakened. Many more would have been in receivership had banks reckoned there was much to receive.

No wonder contractors' traditional gifts to the Tory Party are drying up. Anyone who can is trying to get out of the industry. Rewards are too low and risks too high. Better to stick to design and management and let some other fool do the risky work.

At the same time, more and more is being asked of this battered industry. The Latham report demonstrated that costs are too high, hassle too widespread. Contractors need to become more efficient. That report showed, equally, that costs will come down only if clients co-operate and there is a flow of orders to allow runs of standard components and off-site fabrication.

Absurdly, the Treasury has chosen this moment to cut state investment and to accelerate the private finance initiative. The PFI would be welcomed were it phased-in to increase overall orders. Instead, the process has cut investment and delayed orders, undermining the industry's credit rating. Yet contractors will be called on to shoulder more risk and to arrange the finance for "public" projects.

To meet this new challenge and to cope with the extra responsibility, the industry needs to restructure itself drastically. Yet it is hard to see how this is going to be achieved. Most of the big firms are in too parlous a state to take the initiative. Even the big name specialists are valued at under £500 million on the stock market. Outsiders, or big mixed groups such as P&O, might have become the agents of change, but they are not likely to be attracted by high risks, low profits and a dearth of orders.

One reason many big projects get into trouble is that Britain lacks players of the scale and strength of top French, American and Japanese companies that can take on full responsibility. Trafalgar House made an ambitious attempt to create an integrated world-scale business, but now lies in the industry's overcrowded casualty ward. This has added to City prejudice, which marks mixed risk-spreading groups as candidates for break up, not catalysts for change.

The Department of Transport and the PFI might still become those catalysts. The new Highways Agency was charged with switching road construction to design-and-build methods, which would have sorted the sheep from the goats. But the PFI has been added too hastily. Firms have thrown together far too many ad hoc consortiums to bid for the scarce work. The history of projects such as the Channel Tunnel also suggests consortiums do not work, because members do not always supply their best people. The best hope might be to merge whole divisions permanently into joint companies.

That would need time, sympathetic planning and steady orders. Whitehall offers none of these. So the bright young would-be managers will doubtless choose investment banking or the media.

Wage settlements are lagging well behind inflation, **Philip Bassett** finds

Few bargains in the pay round

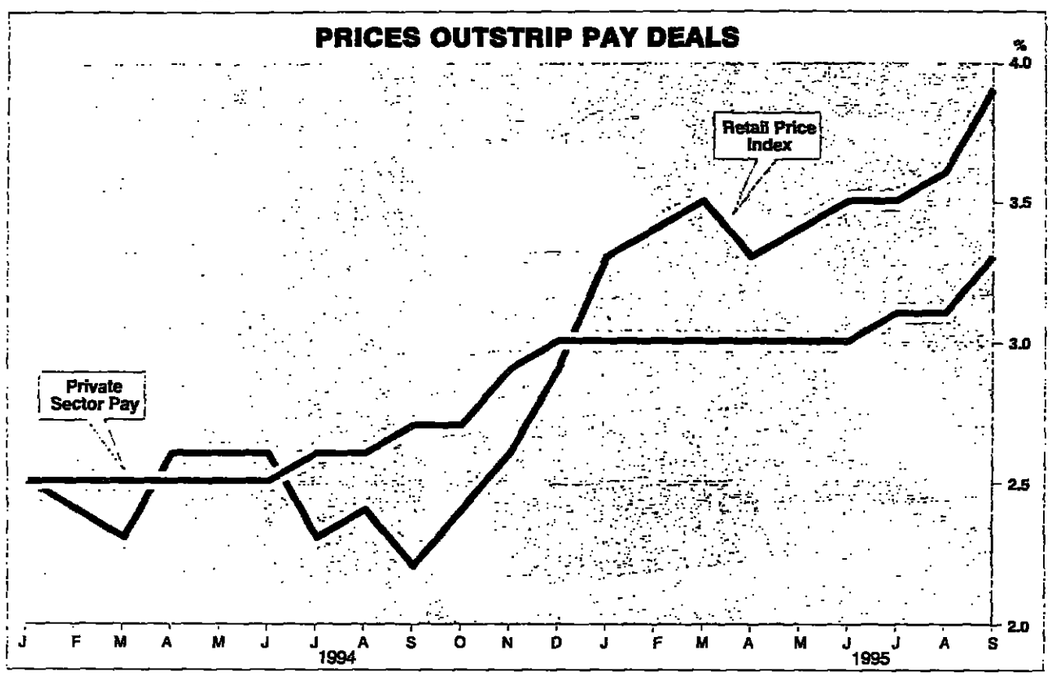
Business leaders are sceptical. Ministers are hopeful. Economists are surprised. But they all recognise that something extremely odd is going on with Britain's pay bargaining: against all recent economic patterns, wage settlements are currently running well behind inflation — and showing few, if any, signs of a build-up to a new pay explosion to push pay, once more, past prices.

"Once you could safely rely on the labour market to provide for pay settlements comfortably ahead of inflation," a report from Industrial Relations Services (IRS), the independent pay analyst, says today. "Now what is striking is the fact that pay deals have barely kept pace with the headline inflation rate."

Pay is not high on the national economic agenda. In its quarterly *Inflation Report* this week, the Bank of England is not expected to see pay as a big inflationary pressure.

While issues such as Europe dominate the political and business agendas at national level, on the ground the problems are both more immediate and more acutely economic. And with inflation now jumping up to a two-year high, employers' concerns about pay increases might be thought to be rising.

New evidence seems to suggest that there is little basis for such concern. As the illustration shows, pay is currently lagging markedly behind prices, and the jump in inflation earlier this year shows, as yet, few signs of being translated by trade unions into higher pay awards.



On the surface, it may not look like that. Take Ford. The motor company is traditionally seen as a pay pacesetter, though its policy of a string of two-year deals has tended to take it out of the pay frontline. But it is a negotiating year and Ford is facing union claims for an increase of about 10 per cent. A week or so ago, the company offered a two-year deal worth 3 per cent each year. Ford's unions called it an "insult", and may well make militant noises after they meet the company again next week.

Or take Vauxhall. It is offering a similar package, with 3.5 per cent in the first year and an inflation-linked rise in the second. In reply, the motor unions are balloting on strike action. Many seasoned pay analysts regard all this as posturing. Their judgment, echoed by key Whitehall pay officials, is that even such high-profile negotiations as Ford and Vauxhall will eventually go quietly.

Employers, too, are playing the bluffing game. Britain's local authorities are, for instance, warning of a difficult pay round this year.

With a new general secretary at the helm of the UK's biggest union — Rodney Bickerstaffe will tomorrow be declared the victor in a ballot for the leadership of Unison, the public services union — local authority employers are expecting a big push on pay this year, especially on the issue of a minimum wage, which has been made a key industrial and political target.

Warning of a "difficult" set of negotiations, the Local Government Manpower Board, the authorities central negotiating body, says in a pay paper circulated to councils: "Local authority finances remain extremely tight, while the unions will be pressing hard to catch up what they see as lost ground, following three years of below-inflation settlements."

Privately, though, local authority employers and union leaders believe that, however difficult, a deal will be done — after, of course, the ritualistic set-piece shadow boxing has been fought through.

In the same sector, firemen may be striking in Liverpool over jobs, but at national level they settled for a below-inflation 3.5 per cent, just as Unison and the other health unions recently accepted an NHS pay package after a compromise deal was reached over local pay bargaining. Unemployment may well still be the driving force. Even though the number of people out of work and claiming benefit is falling, greater labour market flexibility means that job insecurity remains high, strongly limiting employees' readiness to push for high pay.

In a presentation on pay rises which its leaders will be making shortly to the Bank of England, the CBI concludes: "Consumer confidence is not so much affected by earnings rises right now, as by the fear of unemployment" — yet it still suggests that even against relatively weak economic recovery, "this is not the year in which to miss a chance" of securing "modest" pay rises in a further attempt to improve Britain's economic competitiveness.

New figures from the Government next week are expected to show that earnings' growth remains broadly flat, with underlying earnings across the economy holding steady at about 3.25 to 3.5 per cent, and earnings rises in the service sector a full percentage point below that.

Inflation clearly remains a big influence on pay. In its recent study on pay prospects for the coming round, the independent Incomes Data Services group suggest that current pay settlement levels, presently running at 3 to 4 per cent, could go up if inflation does not fall back.

In the public sector, that does not look likely. Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, will confirm in his Budget this month a further year of pay restraint for the public sector. Though unions have given warning against the chances of an unprecedented fourth year of pay restraint coming off, such warnings have proved to be mere sabre-rattling in the past — and look likely to be so again.

Prospects for bigger pay rises in the private sector, too, do not look high. Today's report from the IRS suggests that any recovery in pay settlements, especially in the private sector, is "unlikely to be spectacular". While IRS's own survey of 300 employers shows increasing concern about inflation, the likelihood is low that this will translate into markedly higher pay rises.

While half of all managers in today's survey see inflation as an important upward pay pressure — a big rise of 14 percentage points over the past two years — such fears are far from the traditional pay-price spiral seen at other times. Employers and employees remain cautious, with business worried about a new downturn in the economy, itself increasing rather than alleviating employees' concerns about job security.

Even if pay settlements do edge upwards, most pay analysts agree that the movement will be marginal. Any increase is likely to mirror this year's pattern, when IRS says that "fears of an inflationary surge in settlements in 1995 proved ill-founded".

While there is clearly a new and unusual gap between pay and prices, most are likely to agree with today's report that it is "wise to be sceptical" in line with most employers "that the deeply ingrained link between wage rises and inflation has been finally banished". But for this year, at least, the wage-inflation link looks, if not broken, then at least damaged in a way which until recently looked inconceivable.

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

All in the stars for Abbey

THE Abbey National has discovered that in advertising, you can't please all of the people all of the time. A vociferous minority of newspaper readers have complained that the bank's new ad, featuring Zodiac signs and urging people not to trust their savings to luck, is "blasphemous". Still, the Abbey should be used to all this. Its previous campaign, featuring a banana skin pinned out with four nails, prompted one complaint that it was a travesty of the Crucifixion. Another complainant wrote: "How did your banana split four ways? I have just bought five pounds of bananas and peeled them, but they only ever separate into three."

On his bike

WILLIAM TEBBIT, the 30-year-old son of Lord Tebbit, has stepped up another career rung in the City. He has moved from Flemings to Butterfield Securities, the corporate-finance broker owned by the Bermuda-based Bank of Butterfield. Tebbit Jr has no ambitions to move into politics. "I don't even look like my father. I'm 6ft 4, weigh 18 stone, and I've still got my own hair", he chuckles.

Visible presence

WHILE all around them (such as the Chancellor's City Promotion Panel and the Corporation of London) fight over who is best suited to represent the City overseas, British Invisibles (BI) has got on with the business and again disappeared for foreign shores. Tomorrow, the Duke of Kent opens a BI seminar — London: a Global Partner for Brazil — in São Paulo, at which Pedro Malan, Brazil's Finance Minister, will give a keynote speech. BI has made eight overseas sorties so far this year, and is off to Indonesia later this month.

Down to earth

CHURCH concern about corporate behaviour is not only to be found in Britain, as Carlo De Benedetti, head of the struggling Olivetti computer group has found. His plans to reduce the workforce at Ivrea, Olivetti's home town in northern Italy, have brought him into confrontation with Luigi Bettazzi, Bishop of Ivrea. The bishop has bought seven shares so he can speak out as a shareholder at annual meetings and not just as a spokesman for a higher power.

A NEW sure-fire success savings vehicle was mooted by Clive Boothman, chairman of the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds, at its recent annual dinner. It is the "Grobbelaar", the attraction of which is quite simply the less you save, the more you earn. One for the Chancellor to ponder ahead of Budget Day?

COLIN CAMPBELL

RADIO CHOICE

Fishing for some fun

The Lipman Test. *Radio 4 FM, 10.00am.*

For a woman who says she would rather have fish as a dish than as a friend, Maureen Lipman is commendably patient with the eccentric fishes-as-pets owners she meets. Her voice may rise a tone or two, but that is all. Being a witty entertainer, her reaction can be predicted when told that the fins of a fish in a bowl should form a perfect circle. "The last time I saw Finns form a perfect circle," she quips "was in Helsinki on Christmas Day." Logically, I thought, she wonders why it is always a plaster-cast bridge that fish-lovers put at the bottom of bowls. Why not a model of a motorway service station, or the Pompidou Centre? I wondered what a cat's miaow signified as the programme ended? Did it indicate that a pet goldfish had made a tasty snack?

Composer of the Week: Frank Bridge. *Radio 3, noon.*

You may think it odd — I certainly do — that this week's tributes to Bridge omit the work that inspired his most famous pupil, Benjamin Britten, to write the orchestral piece which has helped to keep Bridge's name evergreen. It is, of course, the *Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge*. The theme began life in the second of Bridge's *Three Idylls* for string quartet. That said, this week's Bridge selections include some of his finest works, including the Cello Sonata, the Cello Concerto, and the symphonic suite *The Sea*, which I am pleased to say is one of today's choices.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Clive Warren **6.30** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, including at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat; and at **1.15** The Net **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, including at 4.40 *Judge Dredd*; **5.30-6.45** Newsbeat; **6.15** The Net, and at **6.30** the nightly mix **7.00** Evening Session. Therapy? **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00** Wendy Lloyd

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Ed Doolan **2.00pm** Debbie Thrower **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg **7.30** Malcolm Laycock with Dance Band Days, and at **8.00** Big Band Era **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **10.00** Thicker Than Water **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Digby Fairweather **1.00** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing **8.35** The Magazine, incl at 10.35 Euronews; **11.05** Going Bananas **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **3.45** Entertainment News **4.00** John Inverdale, incl at **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** sport **7.35** Sportstrack **8.00** The Monday Match, Nottingham Forest v Wimbledon **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra, incl at **11.15** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** The Other Side of Midnight **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr **7.00** Simon Bates **10.00** Jonathan King **12.00** Tommy Boyd **2.00pm** Anna Raeburn **4.00** Scott Chisholm and Lowri Turner **7.00** Sean Bolger **9.00** Moz Dee **10.00** James Whale **1.00-6.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **5.00am** Newsday **5.30** Europe Today **8.00** Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** World News **7.15** Off the Shelf: *The Endless Knot* **7.30** The Vintage Chart Show **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The Greenfield Collection **9.00** News in German **9.15** Anything Goes **9.45** Sport **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Off the Shelf: *The Endless Knot* **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Omnibus **12.00** News **12.05pm** Business Report **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Purcell's London **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** John Peel **3.00** News in German **3.15** Concert **4.00** News **4.15** The World Today **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Sport **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** News in German **7.00** News **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Words of Faith **7.30** Multitrack Hit List **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** Business **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Omnibus **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** The World Today **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.10am** Take Five **11.15** Ed Stewart **11.45** Development '95 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30** Folk **12.45** Britain Today **1.00** News **1.10** Press Review **1.15** Bhangra Beat **1.45** Health **2.00** Newsday **2.30** Two Cheers for October **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** John Peel **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Europe

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Early Breakfast **6.00** Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata **7.00** A to Z of Classical Music **8.00** Evening Concert **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00-6.00am** Robin Banks

RADIO 3

5.55am Weather **6.00 On Air**, with Andrew McGregor. Schubert (Overture in C, in the Italian Style); Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 1 in C); Vivaldi (Violin Concerto in B flat); **7.32** *Symphony Series*: Mozart (Symphony No 18 in F), Walton (Overture, Portsmouth Point); Respighi (Concerto a cinque) **9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini**. Chabrier (Espana); Duparc (Phidylé); Gorecki (Harpsichord Concerto); **9.22** Beethoven (Symphony No 5 in C minor) **10.00 Musical Encounters**, presented by Piers Burton-Page. Purcell (Overture, The Indian Queen); Vaughan Williams (Old King Cole); **10.40** *Artist of the Week*: Gwydion Brooke, bassoon. Mozart (Bassoon Concerto in B flat); **11.00** Marko Tajcevic (Balkan Dances); Stanford (Symphony No 2 Elegiac) **12.00 Fairest Isle: Composer of the Week**. Frank Bridge. See Choice **1.00pm BBC Lunchtime Concert**, live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Buxtehude Ensemble performs Buxtehude (Sonata in A minor); Corelli (Sonata for violin and continuo in A); Muffat (Toccata ottava in G, Apparatus musico-organisticus); Marais (Pieces en trio, excerpts); Buxtehude (Sonata in A, Op 2 No 5) **2.00 Schools**. The Song Tree **2.15** Storybox **2.25** Let's Move **2.45** First Steps in Drama **3.00 The BBC Orchestras**. BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Alexander Titov performs Berlioz (Symphonie fantastique) **3.55 The English Voluntary**. John Toll performs 18th-century organ music (2/3) (r) **4.30 Piano Man**. Final programme about the jazz pianist and bandleader Earl Hines **5.00 The Music Machine**. Tommy Pearson finds out how behaviour links music around the world **5.15 In Tune**, with Andrew Green. Debussy (Trois Chansons de Charles d'Orléans); **6.03** Vaughan Williams (Nocturne, A London Symphony); **6.30** Mendelssohn (Piano Trio No 1 in D minor) **7.30 BBC Philharmonic** under Günther Herbig. Schubert (Symphony No 8 in B minor, Unfinished); Bruckner (Symphony No 9) **8.50 Fairest Isle: Hope and Glory**. Music historians examine European influences on Britain's musical identity over the past 500 years. David Fallows on the medieval period (1/5) **9.05 Spitalfields Festival 1995**. A concert by Jane Manning, soprano; Jane's Minstrels; pupils from St Paul's Way School under Roger Montgomery **10.45 Mixing It**, with Mark Russell and Robert Sandall **11.30 Ensemble**. Lyric Quartet performs Beethoven (String Quartet in F minor); Bartók (String Quartet No 1) **12.30-12.40am Fairest Isle: Catch as Catch Can**. Purcell's bawdy songs **1.00-2.30 Night School**. GNVQ **1.30** Primary Georgraphy **2.00** Libreria: Spanish Stories

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW only) **6.00** News, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **8.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** One Year On **8.58** Weather **9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week**, with Melvyn Bragg, Kate Saunders, David Hockney, Peter Sellars, George Williams and Adam Phillips **10.00-10.30 News; The Lipman Test** (FM only). See Choice **10.00 Daily Service** (LW only) from Reigate, Surrey **10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle** (LW only) **10.30 Woman's Hour**. Serial: *Ladder of Years*, by Anne Tyler. Read by Lizzi Ross (9/13) **11.30 Money Box Live: 0171-580 4444**. Lines open from 10am **12.00pm News; You and Yours**, with Chris Choi **12.25 Round Britain Quiz**. General-knowledge quiz. London v the North **12.55** Weather **1.00 The World at One**, with Nick Clarke **1.40 The Archers** (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast **2.00 News; P Division — Code Four One**. Fourth of six police dramas, by Danny McCahon, set in Glasgow. Detective Sergeant Ray Sussock investigates a murder in a rock band **3.00 The Afternoon Shift**, with Laurie Taylor **4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope**. Lynne Walker considers the art of politics **4.45 Short Story: Through My Own Fault**, by Tim Franks. Read by Roger May **5.00 PM 5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather **6.00 Sbr O'Clock News** **6.30 The News Quiz**. Last in the series (r) **7.00 News 7.05 The Archers** **7.20 The Food Programme** (r) **7.45 The Monday Play: Grosse Fugue**, by Nick Burbridge. Will, a cellist, is attracted to Siobhan, the new first violinist in his string quartet. Alice, Will's wife, is aware of the attraction, and the tension between the couple has an adverse effect on the health of their son. With Jonathan Taffler, Kate Duchene and Lisa Orgolini **9.15 Whatever Happened to . . .** Postman Pat? (5/5) **9.30 Kaleidoscope** (r) **9.59** Weather **10.00 The World Tonight**, with Robin Lustig **10.45 Booker at Bedtime**. An extract from *The Riders* by Tim Winton **11.00-11.30 Devout Sceptics** (FM only). Bel Mooney invites Sheila Hancock to talk about her association with the Quakers (r) **11.00-11.30 Education Matters** (LW only), presented by Judy Merry **11.30-12.00 Unofficial Rosie** (FM only). Third of a six-part serial by Alan McDonald (r) **11.30 Today in Parliament** (LW only) **12.00am News**, incl **12.27** Weather **12.30 The Late Book: Dr Haggard's Disease**. Written and read by Patrick McGrath (1/10) **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 646; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

هكذا من الاصل

Abundant style but precious little subtlety

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

"All things *must pass, nothing* lasts forever." Was Francis Urquhart talking about Baroness Thatcher, whose funeral he was about to attend, or the elderly labrador he had just dispatched with a shotgun? The words that followed — "she was a good bitch" — suggested the *canine option, I think.*

For it had been made deliberately difficult to tell as **The Final Cut** (BBC1) began with more style and less substance than either of its predecessors, *House of Cards* and *To Play the King*, and a less than subtle political agenda. Andrew Davies, its adapter, is not going to be popular at Conservative Central Office this morning.

Whether Davies is going to be popular with the viewing public, however, is quite another matter. But if he has managed to stay flavour-of-Sunday-night (*Pride and Prejudice* was also one of his) it will be entirely thanks to Ian Richardson, whose performance as Urquhart now borders dangerously on parody but remains as watchable as ever. As long as Richardson is there, style will triumph over substance every time. Especially with Isla Blair's bosom around to enrich the creative process.

But it is no bad thing that *The Final Cut* will be the last we see of Urquhart. This Urquhart is not like previous incarnations. He is not an evil, scheming politician, he is an evil, scheming Conservative politician. His allegiance has gone from being implicit and dramatically unimportant to explicit and *dramatically a tad* tedious.

Whether the fault lies with Davies or with Michael Dobbs, the Conservative politician who wrote the book but has taken his name off the television adaptation, I do not know, but the plot advances with all the subtlety of the gently lobbed breeze block.

So we have Nures, the Turkish Cypriot businessman who has made large donations to party funds and expects political favours in return; we have the Urquhart Foundation, which purports to fund academic posts but which will actually fund the Urquharts' retirement, and we have a fight between the Left and Right about who will succeed FU when he goes. Must have taken them ages to dream that lot up, mustn't it?

This being a Davies adaptation there are, of course, compensations. As well as Richardson's artfully arched eyebrows, there is a trio of scheming beauties — with Diane Fletcher as the manipulative Elizabeth Urquhart, Isla Blair as the ambitious and energetically unfaithful backbencher Claire Carlsen, and Alison Peebles as the kissable Cabinet minister, Betsy Bourke.

The one problem I had last night was telling them apart, as they all sported similar "sensible but sexy" glossy hairstyles, a Conservative response, perhaps, to the so-called Blair bob adopted by Harriet Harman and co. I have no idea what its real name is, but I know what Cilla Black would call it — the Urquhart 'urcut.

Judging by the eccentrically hirsute bunch on display in last night's Guy Fawkes night special, **Equinox: Kaboom!** (Channel 4) hair-cuts are not exactly top priority in the world of high explosives. But then when your life depends on being able to count from five backwards and not dropping small flasks of nitro-glycerine, I suppose the importance of a regular trim does rather pale.

But be they bearded or pony-tailed, the experts assembled by David Dugan, the producer, did an excellent job of communicating their enthusiasm for those "glorious acts of chemical anger".

Despite the celebratory overtones, this first-class documentary never forgot that one of the principal uses of this branch of chemistry has been for killing people. The paradox was there at the beginning, when ancient Chinese alchemists were searching for the secret of eternal life and made gunpowder by accident, and has continued. So we learnt how nitroglycerine was discovered by scientists attempting to make new medicines, and why Alfred Nobel is now better remembered for his peace prize than his dynamite.

Helped by recreations of important experiments from explosives history and by some splendid Heath Robinson-style fieldwork, Dugan's film was always entertaining. It was also educational, possibly a little too much so. The formula for gunpowder probably counted as revision of long-forgotten school lessons, but the chemistry of the terrorists' fertiliser and fuel-oil alternative did not. Thankfully, a veil was drawn over the formulation of Semtex. Some things are best left undetonated.

Not having seen Strindberg's original, I'm not sure what liberties Patrick Marber took with his reworking. **After Miss Julie** (BBC2, Saturday). But given that he substituted mid-summer's night in Sweden for general election night in the Britain of 1945, I would imagine a fair few.

As it turned out, the anticipation of the night of apparently feverish sex shared by the aristocratic Miss Julie (Geraldine Somerville) and her father's manservant, John (Phil Daniels), turned out to be rather more enjoyable than the recriminations that followed, with both parties suffering the sort of violent mood swings that the rational and sane easily tire of. Still, Somerville was quite excellent across the range of emotions, with Daniels providing powerful support. The third star, however, turned out to be not Kathy Burke as John's fiancée Christine (a somewhat thankless part) but the camera, which waltzed and pirouetted around the studio like it had just discovered its wheels. Old fashioned but strangely enjoyable.

● *Lynne Truss is on holiday*

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (70506)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (94946167)
9.10 Kilroy (s) (4579235)
10.00 News (Ceefax) (5933186) **10.05 Housemates.** Quiz show (s) (5786849)
10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Magazine show, with Roland Rivron, Ainsley Harriott (s) (4837902)
12.00 News (Ceefax) (9938438)
12.05pm Pebble Mill. With Alan Bates, Robson Green and Jerome Flynn (s) (4094186)
12.50 Regional News and weather (23701438)
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (75902)
1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (25766877) **1.55 Knots Landing** (s) (5964983)
2.40 The Clothes Show. (r) (Ceefax) (s) (2718693) **3.05 Incognito** (s) (1325051)
3.30 Philbert the Frog (r) (s) (6216761) **3.35 Oakie Doke** (s) (5033235) **3.45 Dear Mr Barker** (s) (5053099) **4.00 Alvin and the Chipmunks** (r) (2601167) **4.15 Phantom 2040** (Ceefax) (s) (6566902)
4.35 Grange Hill. With Belinda Crane and Tim Bentinck *(r) (Ceefax) (s) (1187525)*
5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (8109631)
5.10 Blue Peter (Ceefax) (5795032)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax)(s) (391490)
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) (983)
6.30 Regional news magazines (235)
7.00 Telly Addicts. Trivia quiz (Ceefax) (s) (2728)
7.30 Watchdog. Consumer magazine (Ceefax) (s) (419)
8.00 EastEnders. *Nigel's meeting with his solicitor spells* disaster (Ceefax) (s) (8148)
8.30 2point4 Children: The Truth Is Out There. Quirky sit-com. Rona is in danger of losing her house. With Belinda Lang and Gary Olsen (Ceefax) (s) (4493)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1693)
9.30 Panorama: Class Struggle. Are children being let down by inadequate teaching in schools? (Ceefax) (179525)



Culinary comedy with Lenny Henry (10.10pm)

10.10 Chef! Beyond the Pass. With Lenny Henry (r) (Ceefax) (s) (271419) **Northern Ireland:** 29 Bedford Street 10.40 Chef! 11.10 Omnibus 12.00 Inside Ulster News 12.05am Film 95 with Barry Norman 12.35-2.05 Film: Love and Money **Wales:** Dez Rez (271419) 10.40 Chef! (954612) 11.10 Omnibus (407344) 12.00 Film 95 with Barry Norman (59939) 12.30am Steven Spielberg's Amazing Stories (4754465) 1.40 News headlines and weather (9236858)
10.40 Omnibus: Foundation Course in Art (Ceefax) (s) (405612)
11.30 Film 95 with Barry Norman. Includes a report from the set of Goldeneye, with Pierce Brosnan as 007 in the 17th James Bond film (Ceefax) (s) (43815)
12.00 Steven Spielberg's Amazing Stories. Three tales(8766303)
1.10am Weather (3527620)

BBC2

6.00am Technology Season
7.00 Breakfast News. (4270419) **7.15 Lassie** (4282254) **7.35 Pirates of Dark Water** (r). (1475761) **8.00 Blue Peter** (r). (s) (3659902) **8.25 Songs of Praise** (r). (s) (5056167)
9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **10.00-10.25** Playdays (7681475)
2.00 Brum (r) (47232964) **2.10 Tex Avery.** *One Droopy Knight* (r). (Ceefax) (76375235)
2.15 FILM: What Price Victory? (1988). An American college uses unscrupulous recruiting methods to strengthen their football team. Starring Mac Davis, directed by Kevin Connor. (Ceefax) (s) (563438) **3.55 News** (Ceefax) and weather (6018896)
4.00 Today's the Day. *History quiz (s) (148)*
4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (772) **5.00 Esther.** A discussion on twins (s) (9326) **5.30 Going Going Gone.** Auction game (s) (612)
6.00 Space Precinct. Futuristic police drama series created by Jerry Anderson. (Ceefax) (s) (219254)
6.45 The O Zone. Pop music magazine (s) (812709)
7.00 People's Century (r). (Ceefax) (s) (152815)
7.55 Close Up. The director, John Badham, discusses the celebrated opening to his film *Saturday Night Fever* (s) (474983)
8.00 [redacted] Horizon: The Human Laboratory. (Ceefax) (s) (651902)
8.50 Life's a Lottery. Gary Ward, a shopowner whose takings have risen by 500 per cent since he started selling lottery tickets (s) (782709)
9.00 The X Files: Excelsis Dei. Science-fiction drama series. (Ceefax) (s) (400780)
9.45 Kicking and Screaming. Jimmy Hill, Bobby Robson and Terry Venables talk about how football became showbusiness during the 1960s. (Ceefax) (s) (197896)
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow. (Ceefax) (484254)



Germaine Greer, in regal form (11.15pm)

11.15 [redacted] Face to Face: Germaine Greer (s) (339490)
11.55 Weather (719902)
12.00 Midnight Hour with Sir Bernard Ingham. Political chat show (s) (40281)
12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone: Open University — Everyman. Just an Illness (3556026) **1.10** More Than Meets the Eye (3869620) **1.35** Florence Nightingale (8453620) **2.00 Nightschool TV:** Modern Languages: Quinze Minutes (47945) **4.00 BBC Focus:** Developing Family Literacy (79692) **4.30** Understanding Meningitis (51803378) **4.45** DOH Special (53315216) **5.00** Pathways to Care (99194) **5.30** RCN Nursing Update (41910)

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CHOICE

Face to Face
BBC2, 11.15pm

Although Jeremy Isaacs might not be the world's most exciting interviewer, fortunately for us Germaine Greer is one of its most fascinating interviewees. *Recorded just before the publication of Slipshod Sibyls*, Greer is in regal form, filling the screen with her enviable self-belief and blazing intelligence. Lobbing more controversy than Isaacs can safely deal with at once, she outlines the book's themes and dispatches her interrogator's feeble attempts at feminist-baiting with smooth assurance. Ever the stylist, she does the personal bit (rape, abortion, marriage, parents and children) with a curious mix of revelation and reticence. An autobiography is *apparently out of the question.* "I don't think there's a story there. I don't think it's interesting." Perhaps yet another of her opinions you may not agree with.

Omnibus: Foundation Course in Art
BBC1, 10.40pm (Scotland, Thursday 11.50pm)

In the week that the Turner Prize exhibits went on display, *Omnibus* makes this contribution to "is it art or is it a con" argument. The story of how pop duo KLF left the music industry in 1992 to re-emerge as the K *Foundation dedicated to artistic iconoclasm has been* well documented. After awarding £40,000 to the worst work of art on the same evening as its creator won the 1993 Turner Prize, they went on to nail a million pounds to a board as a work of art. When no gallery would take it, they packed it in a suitcase, took it to a Scottish island and burnt it. The questions now asked are: why did they do it, was it worth it, was it art, or, more to the point, are Bill Drummond and Jimmy Cauty two self-indulgent pop stars with more money *than sense?*



Robbie Coltrane tackles another case (ITV, 9.00pm)

Cracker
ITV, 9.00pm

There is nothing we like more in our heroes than fallibility and they do not come more fallible than Fitz. A fat bloke with more dirty habits than a monk's laundry basket, he can charm us precisely because he does not always get it right first time. Such is the case in the second story of this final series. *Best Boys* is a two-parter written not by Jimmy McGovern but by Cracker producer Paul Abbott who, like McGovern, does not shy away from sensitive subjects. Although *tapes were not available, the plot seems to concern the* relationship between an older man and a young lad and the consequences of their refusal to admit the nature of their feelings.

Horizon: The Human Laboratory
BBC2, 8.00pm

Outrage, anger, bewilderment and horror are just some of the reactions evinced by Debbie Cadbury's film revealing the way contraceptive drugs have been tested on Third World women. The film gathers evidence that in Bangladesh and Haiti the clinical trials testing Norplant, a long-lasting contraceptive implanted under the skin, were both unscientific and unethical. It claims that side-effects were often not reported, that women were actively discouraged from asking for the implant's removal and even that the women did not know they were taking part in a trial of an untested drug.

Frances Lass

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (17525)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (s) (9539709)
9.55 London Today (Teletext) (6361982)
10.00 The Time ... the Place (s) (8156099)
10.35 This Morning *(72263761)*
12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (9927322)
12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (9967186)
12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (9942877)
1.25 Coronation Street (r) (Teletext) (81749885)
1.55 Shortland Street (92182780)
2.20 Blue Heelers: Without Trace. A married couple disappear (8839051)
3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (8001167)
3.25 London Today (8000438)
3.30 The Slow Norris (s) (5029032) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (6221693) **3.50 Wolves, Witches and Giants** (s) (5030148) **4.05 Sooty and Co** (s) (6014070) **4.30 Where's Wally?** (r) (1182070) **4.50 How 2** (Teletext) (7150780)
5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating. (Teletext) (7139815)
5.40 ITN News and weather (Teletext) (685612)
5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (579322)
6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (821)
6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (631)
7.00 The Krypton Factor. (Teletext) (s) (7896)
7.30 Coronation Street. Leo is back, seeking revenge. (Teletext) (815)



Game show with Bruce Forsyth (8.00pm)

8.00 Bruce's Price Is Right. Guess the price to win the prize. (Teletext) (s) (6544)
8.30 World in Action investigates the Yardies, drug dealers who originated in the slums of Jamaica but now operate with ferocious violence in Britain. (Teletext) (s) (5051)
9.00 [redacted] Cracker: Bold Boys. (Teletext) (s) (5525)
10.00 ITN News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (80709)
10.30 London Tonight. (Teletext) (156099)
10.40 The Good Sex Guide Abroad. Includes Paul Ross reporting on sexual freedom and Aids in the new *South Africa and Mike McNally experiencing a* Native American-style sexuality weekend. (Teletext) (s) (949780)
11.10 Traps: Triage (s) (729964)
12.10am Short Story Cinema (6794991)
12.35 Curtis Calls: Bobby's Brioche (9523007)
12.40 Endsleigh League Extra (6545113)
1.25 Sport AM including highlights from the Liffey Canoe Race in Ireland (4512200)
2.25 Quiz Night. *Pub quiz(1287571)*
2.50 FILM: Shadow of the Eagle (1950, b/w). Swashbuckler with Richard Greene, Valentina Cortese. Directed by Sidney Salkow (576736)
4.25 On the Live Side (s) (68758991)
4.35 Best of British Motorsport (86445736)
5.00 The Chrystal Rose Show (r) (s) (86620)
5.30 ITN Morning News (45736). *Ends at* **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Heathcliff. Cartoon (r) (9964772)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (65525)
9.00 Evening Shade (r) (s) (90186)
9.30 Schools: Geography (4066525) **9.45** Book Box (4054780) **10.00** Stage Two Science (3943964) **10.15** Learn Sign Language (2813544) **10.20** Place and People (3947780) **10.40** The English Programme (1588896) **1.05** Encyclopaedia Galactica (7578631) **11.15** The Mix (6992902) **11.30** Rat-a-Tat-Tat (436745) **11.45** Junior Technology (s) (4395612)
12.00 Crawshaw's Sketching and Drawing Course. (2/10) (Teletext) (s) (70322)
12.30pm Sesame Street (56983) **1.30 Gumdrop** *followed by* **Bush Tales, The Magic Roundabout** and **Musti** (92187235) **1.50 Oh What a Knight.** Animation (98914032) **1.55 Australia Wild** (25767506)
2.25 FILM: Death Drums Along the River (1963) starring Richard Todd. A remake of *Sanders of the River*, directed by Lawrence Huntingdon (724612)
4.00 Think Tank. General knowledge quiz for teams. (Teletext) (s) (544)
4.30 Fifteen To One with William G. Stewart. (Teletext) (s) (728)
5.00 Love In the Afternoon. Romantic magazine. (Teletext) (s) (4709)
6.00 Roseanne. American comedy series (r). (Teletext) (s) (693)
6.30 Hollyoaks. Phil Redmond's teen soap. (Teletext) (s) (273)
7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) (147983)
7.55 The Slot. Viewers' video soapbox (469051)



Pete McCarthy meets Lama Yeshe, left (8.00pm)

8.00 Desperately Seeking Something: Pan's People. In the last of his series Pete McCarthy visits the holy island of Aran, which a Tibetan mystic, Lama Yeshe, hopes will become the spiritual interface of the *Earth. (Teletext)* (s) (4186)
8.30 Baby It's You: You and Me. The final programme. How a baby develops its skills in getting on with other people. (r) (Teletext) (s) (3693)
9.00 Trial and Error. David Jessel unearths new *evidence that suggests that George McPhee may* not be guilty of the murder, in September 1984, of Elizabeth Sunderland (3167)
10.00 Homicide — Life On the Street. Baltimore police drama series. (Teletext) (s) (1576902)
11.05 The American Football Big Match The Buffalo Bills v the Indianapolis Colts and the Washington Redskins v the Kansas City Chiefs (s) (903083)
12.00am Peace After Rabin. Special programme about Israel in the wake of the assassination of the Prime Minister
1.25 Let The Blood Run Free. Australian black comedy about a hospital (r) (s) (3873823)
1.55 FILM: King Of Burlesque (1936, b/w). Vintage musical starring Warner Baxter, Alice Faye, Fats Waller, Jack Oakie and Mona Barne. Directed by *Sidney Lanfield (20913026). Ends at* **3.30**
4.00-5.40 Schools: *The English* Programme (411216)

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (3942877) **1.25** Home and Away (81749885) **1.55-2.20** A Country Practice (92182780) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (7139815) **8.25** Anglia Weather (552780) **6.30-7.00** Anglia News (631) **10.40** Cover Story (849780) **11.10** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (502254) **11.40** Hunter (450457) **1.25am** Film: Jimmy the Kid (675910) **4.00** Best of British Motorsport (79638) **4.30** The Time... the Place (39200) **5.00** The New Adventures of He-Man (86620)

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.55-2.20 A Country Practice (92182780) **3.25-3.30** Central News (8000438) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (7139815) **8.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (541490) **10.40** Millionaires (849780) **11.10** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (502254) **11.40** Crime Story (450457) **4.25am** Jobfinder (36176491) **5.20** Asian Eye (4204007)

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.55-1.20 Shortland Street (7784693) **1.20** Coronation Street (803993441) **2.20-3.20** Side Effects (8839051) **5.10-5.40** What's My Line? (7139815) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (631) **10.45** The West Story (198439) **11.15** Limited Edition (881362) **11.45** Spotlight (231803) **12.15am** Good Advice (8793262) **4.25** Jobfinder (88758991)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 5.10-5.40 The Electric Chair (7139815) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (631) **10.45** Pavarotti in Llangollen (917996)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (9942877) **1.25** Home and Away (81749885) **1.55** A Country Practice (25769964) **2.25-3.20** Blue Heelers (8205322) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (7139815) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (631) **6.30-7.00** Down by the River (631) **10.45** The Pier (985728) **11.10** The Listings (198235) **11.15** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (881362) **11.45** Beyond Reason (231803) **12.15am** Short Story Cinema (6793262) **1.25** Film: Jimmy the Kid (675910) **4.00** Best of British Motorsport (79638) **4.30** The Time... the Place (39200) **5.00** Freescreen (86620)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (6361982) **12.20pm** Westcountry News (9936070) **12.25-12.30** My Story (9935341) **12.55** Coronation Street (9942877) **1.25** Home and Away (81749885) **1.55** High Road (25769964) **2.25** Gardeners' Diary (70356728) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (2992051) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News (8000438) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (7139815) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (54885) **10.30-10.40** Westcountry News (156099) **11.10** Fair's Fair (502254) **11.40** Side Effects (450457) **4.25am** Jobfinder (88758991)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (6361982) **12.20pm-12.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News and Weather / Bilsdale: Network North (9927322) **12.55** Coronation Street (9942877) **1.25** Home and Away (81749885) **1.55** A Country Practice (92182780) **2.20** An Invitation to Remember... the Entertainers (70348709) **2.50** Help Yourself (6491099) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (2726612) **3.25-3.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News / Bilsdale: Network North (8000438) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (7139815) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (845693) **6.30-7.00** The Dales Diary (631) **10.30** Calendar News and Weather (156099) **10.40** New Voices: Tracy and Lewis (949780) **11.10** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (502254) **11.40** Prisoner Cell Block H (729099) **12.35am** Endsleigh League Extra (8520804) **1.20** Film: Docteur Francoise Gailland (879216) **3.05** The New Music (2976787) **4.05** Night Shift (68778755) **4.15** Jobfinder (9296533)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (65525) **9.00** Evening Shade (90186) **9.30** Schools (18070) **9.30** Geography (4066525) **9.45** Tro Yn Ti (7978341) **10.05** Sang-di-lang (3942235) **10.20** Place And People (3947780) **10.40** The English Programme (1588896) **11.05** Encyclopedia Galactica (7578631) **11.15** Ffenestri (8992902) **11.30** Penawdau (4307457) **11.45** Junior Technology (4395612) **12.00pm** Right To Reply (70322) **12.30** Kate and Orbit (29186) **1.00** Slot Metrrin (68612) **1.30** Crawshaw's Sketching And Drawing Course (28457) **2.00** Film: Snake Treaty (201186) **3.50** Zoetropia/Mondrian (6225419) **4.00** Think Tank (544) **4.30** Australia Wild (725) **5.00** 5 Pump: Rownd A Rownd (8192341) **5.10** 5 Pump: Flail (8196525) **5.20** 5 Pump: Tochabent (5328032) **5.30** Fifteen To One (780) **6.00** Newyddion (220544) **6.15** Heno (288419) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (132255) **7.25** Y Byd Ar Bedwar (988631) **8.00** Fo A Fe: Gwir A r Ganfas (4188) **8.30** Newyddion (3693) **9.00** Homicide — Life On The Streets (3167) **10.00** Sporio (1578902) **11.05** The American Football (903083) **12.20am** Frasier (6566281) **12.50** Short Stories: High Flyer (3302910) **1.20** Diwedd (46261991) **4.00** Schools (411216)

SATELLITE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY ONE

7.00am DJ Kat (91148) **8.00** Power Rangers *(37831)* **8.30** *Jeopardy (39902)* **9.00** Court TV (27254) **9.30** Oprah (29902) **10.30** Concentration **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (15544) **12.00** Spellbound (22790) **12.30pm** Designing Woman (56254) **1.00** The Waltons (51709) **2.00** Geraldo (59480) **3.00** Court TV (3235) **3.30** Oprah (9686728) **4.20** Kids TV (1300780) **5.00** The Next Generation (7815) **6.00** Power Rangers (2099) **6.30** Spellbound **7.00** LAPD (8544) **7.30** M*A*S*H (2235) **8.00** Saturday, Sunday (4964) **8.30** Revelations (3099) **9.00** Police Rescue (78490) **10.00** The Next Generation (88877) **11.00** *Law and Order (23439) 12.00 Letterman* (9707674) **12.45am.** Crossings (3254533) **1.30** Anything But Love **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix (8312842)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (61562885) **10.10** CBS 60 Minutes (8089457) **11.00** News and Business (730032) **1.30pm** CBS News (80525) **2.30** Parliament (88728) **3.30** Parliament (4457) **4.00** Business (63070) **5.00** Live at Five (5457) **6.30** *Tonight* (60535709) **8.10** CBS 60 Minutes (262032) **9.00** Business (415051) **11.30** CBS News (49322) **12.30am** ABC News (18378) **1.30** Tonight (2892303) **2.10** CBS 60 Minutes (6627587) **3.30** Parliament (32858) **4.30** CBS News (222001) **5.30-6.30** ABC News (76674)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (4709070) **10.00** No Child of Mine (1993) (50070) **12.00** A Whale for the Killing — Part One (1981) (63693) **2.00pm Mountain Family Robinson** (1979) (18047) **4.00** The Great American Traffic Jam (1980) (9419) **6.00** No Child of Mine (1993) (38032) **7.30** Close-Up: Steven Spielberg and the Cast on Jurassic Park (9371) **8.00 Made In America** (1993) (94438) **10.00 Under Siege** (1992) (421896) **11.45 American Cyborg: Steel Warrior** (1992) (425475) **1.20am** The Most Beautiful Breasts In the World (1990) (8422465) **1.35 Maidn' Upt** (1992) (9335649) **2.30 With Hostile Intent** (1993) (27200) **4.00-6.00** The Mummy Lives (1993) (47378)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Madame X (1937) (4761) **6.00 Brigadoon** (1954) (62877) **8.00 Footloose** (1984) (67322) **10.00 The Exorcist III** (1990) (346631) **11.55 The Osterman Weekend** (1983) (998438) **1.40-3.25am Bob and Carol and Ted and Alice** (1969) (997804)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Tarzan and the Slave Girl (1950) (12821) **8.00 The Prince and the Pauper** (1972) (19815) **9.00 What Next?** (1974) (44833) **10.00 All That Heaven Allows** (1955) (58612) **12.00 Smiley Gets a Gun** (1958) (61235) **2.00pm The Vengeance of She** (1967) (18029) **4.00 The Prince and the Pauper** (1972) (85438) **5.00 What Next?** (1974) (8475) **6.00 The Whipping Boy** (1994) (90235) **8.00 Children of the Dark** (1994) (85780) **10.00 Rising Sun** (1993) (55338438) **12.10am Beyond Betrayal** (1993) (976910) **1.50 CB4** (1993) (6997465) **3.20-5.20 Stalking Back** (1993) (76240587)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold from 10pm to 4am.
6.00am Umbrella Tree (32542051) **6.30** Muppet Babies (27654070) **7.00** Winnie the Pooh (67474186) **7.30** Duckdates (67453693) **8.00** Chip 'n' Dale (82463709) **8.30** Wonderland (82455780) **9.00** Fraggle Rock (82446032) **9.30** Pooh Corner (90889506) **10.00** Dumbo (27645322) **10.30** Quack Attack (82474544) **11.00** Walt Disney Presents (67462341) **12.00** FILM: The Horsemasters' (56517815) **1.30pm** Railway Dragon (90883993) **2.00** Wonderland (78395506) **2.30** Umbrella Tree (86209728) **3.00** Fraggle Rock (78307341) **3.30** Winnie the Pooh (86204273) **4.00** Quack Attack (82283780) **4.30** Ducktales (86289984) **5.00** Chip 'n' Dale Rescue Rangers (78319186) **5.30** Danger Bay (86203544) **6.00** Tarzan (86200457) **6.30** Dinosaurs (86291709) **7.00** Boy Meets World (78396322) **7.30** Thunder Alley (86280693) **8.00-10.00** FILM: The Ernest Green Story (99485506)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Aerobics (99148) **8.30** Figure Skating (18341) **10.00** Supercross (35322) **11.00** Boxing (55186) **12.00** Motorsports (95728) **1.00pm** Eurotun **1.30** Triathlon (37457) **2.30** Snooker (20726) **3.30** Supercross (54612) **4.30** Tractor (51612) **5.30** Truck (40070) **6.30** News **7.00** Speedworld (47167) **8.00** Football (48902) **10.00** Pro Wrestling (19761) **11.00** Eurogoll (36051) **12.00-12.30am** News (35397)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Speed and Beauty (32235) **7.30** Racing (44070) **8.00** Watersports (23761) **9.00** Aerobics (52525) **9.30** Powerboat (87708) **10.00** The Big League (90273) (20804577) **9.20** Days of Our Lives (2685419) **10.10-11.00** Another World (1468490)

SKY TRAVEL

11.00am Globetrotter (2944148) **11.30** Wheeler's World — The Ultimate Package (1116051) **12.30pm** The Restaurant Show (1912254) **1.00** Around the World (9610235) **1.30** Travel Guide (1911525) **2.00** Trailside (6617525) **2.30** *On Top of the World* (6281186) **3.00** Getaway (6696032) **3.30-4.00** Boomerang (6286631)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Our Century (2968728) **5.00** History Alive (6610612) **6.00-7.00** Biography: Edgar Allan Poe (1920273)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

7.00pm Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (6511341) **7.30** Ray Bradbury (6282051) **8.00-10.00** FILM: Dr Strange (9249254)

TLC

9.00am Simply Painting (8680506) **9.30** Martha Stewart Living (2420167) **10.00** Our House (44233222) **10.30** Get Well Soon (8679480) **11.00** Only Human (2047273) **11.45** Draw With Don (25509457) **12.00** Psychology (8893070) **12.30pm** Jimmy's (2424983) **1.00** Martha Stewart (5071631) **1.30** Painting (2423254) **2.00** The Heart of Healing (6898693) **2.45** Draw With Don (1569099) **3.00** Secret Gardens (7802631) **3.30-4.00** Our House (6792631)

UK GOLD

7.00am The Chronicles of Narnia (5041490) **7.30** Neighbours (5060525) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (8682341) **8.30** EastEnders (6691612) **9.00** The Bill (8682964) **9.30** The Sullivans (2422525) **10.00** Secret Army (5086708) **11.00** Dallas (5079273) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (8602726) **12.30pm** Neighbours (2426341) **1.00** EastEnders (5040761) **1.30** *The Bill (2426812)* **2.00** The Sullivans (83379254) **2.25** Are You Being Served? (5648780) **3.00** Angels (7871761) **3.30** Eldorado (67617761) **4.00** Casualty (19103877) **5.05** Every Second Counts (4074780) **5.45** Are You Being Served? (9518877) **6.25** EastEnders (8889490) **7.00** Eldorado (7896070) **7.30** Bless This House (6787709) **8.00** George and Mildred (7872490) **8.30** Alas Smith and Jones (7891525) **9.00** Capital City (4819631) **10.00** The Bill (6933051) **10.35** Special Branch (24493506) **11.40** KYTV (6812525) **12.15am** Dr Who (4880723) **12.45** FILM: Desperate (37196736) **2.00** Shopping (7688007)

TCC

6.00am Casper (10186) **7.00** New Pink Panther (65148) **7.30** Ready or Not (77983) **8.00** Sweet Valley High (55588) **8.30** Casper (3879032) **8.45** Dinobabies (3807815) **9.00** Tiny TCC (990612) **12.00** Tiny TCC (861964) **3.00pm** Sonic (3419) **3.30** Pink Panther (8029) **4.00** California Dreams (9506) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (8490)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Garbage Pail Kids (7972964) **6.15** Gnmmy (7977419) **6.30** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (10525) **7.00** Batfink (9828254) **7.05** Hero Turtles (1770167) **7.45** Rugrats (582544) **8.15** Doug (677186) **8.45** The Ferals **9.00** Nick Junior (9073631) **12.30pm** Real Monsters (89167) **1.00** Clarissa (39148) **1.30** Mighty Max (88438) **2.00** Speed Racer (8186) **2.30** Galaxy High (5726) **3.00** Count Duckula (7693) **3.30** Littlest Pet Shop (2083) **4.00** Hero Turtles (9780) **4.30** Rugrats (5964) **5.00** Clarissa (9438) **5.30** Wishbone (9544) **6.00** Doug (6457) **6.30** Are You Afraid of the *Dark? (7709) 7.00 Ferris Bueller* (2902) **7.30-8.00** Sister (6693)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm The Global Family (6788438) **4.30** Earthlife (6777322) **5.00** Lonely Planet (7893983) **6.00** Invention (6798815) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (8882254) **7.30** Frontline (6778051) **8.00** Africa (48047091) **9.00** The Astronomers (4817273) **10.00** Outlaws (4887032) **11.00** Mysteries (6120877) **11.30-12.00** Wars in Peace (4429506)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Invasion of the Animal People (1796188) **1.30pm** Scotland Yard (2410780) **2.00** The Saint (4428877) **3.00** The Adventures of Robin Hood (7806457) **3.30** Man from Interpol (6796457) **4.00** FILM: Mine Own Executioner (7800273) **6.00** Death Valley Days (6785341) **6.30** Men in a Suitcase (8659780) **7.30** Robin Hood (6772877) **8.00** The Saint (4881235) **9.00** Jason King (4811089) **10.00-12.00** FILM: The Hotel New Hampshire (6136438)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony (7873815) **7.00** Magazine (3312063) **9.00** All Well and Good (1179916) **9.30** Kate and Allie (7527506) **10.00** Hearts of Gold (9877322) **10.50** Entertainment (92053235) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (8526051) **11.55** Masterchef (2692902) **12.30pm** Brookside (6541436) **1.05** Kilroy (8771896) **2.00** Agony (3407439) **3.00** Magazine (8449877) **4.00** Intaturation UK (4608322) **4.30** Crosswits (6327099) **5.05** The Joker's Wild (75164061) **5.30** Bewitched (4628186) **6.00** Esther (4625099) **6.30** Brookside (5070436) **7.05** Crosswits **7.35** The Joker's Wild (9981419) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (8998419) **9.00** FILM: Falsely Accused (8991506) **11.00-12.00** Dangerous Women (3217439)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm The Wonder Years (8964) **5.30** Tintin (126631) **5.50** Batman (679612) **6.25** Catchphrase (278157) **7.00** Through the Keyhole (8728) **7.30** The Fall Guy (13254) **8.30** *Home to Roost* (6683) **9.00** The Beiderbecke Connection (69544) **10.00** All Clued Up (55524) **10.30** Moonlighting (68780) **11.30** Batman (27490) **12.00** The Fall Guy (17552) **1.00am** Zorro (47842) **1.

FAIR TRADING 40

NEW HEAD OF OFT STANDS UP FOR THE VULNERABLE

BUSINESS

BATTERED 42

GRAHAM SEARJEANT SAYS BUILDERS NEED URGENT REPAIRS

MONDAY NOVEMBER 6 1995

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK



Harper: "no middle man"

Amerada Hess to undercut British Gas prices

BY ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A LEADING North Sea oil and gas producer is to offer gas at a 15 per cent discount to British Gas prices to 500,000 householders in the South West of England.

The prices pledged by Amerada Hess Gas will enable a saving of £50 a year to be made on the average £350 a year domestic gas bill. The saving for a family in a typical semi could amount to £75 a year, after the payment of VAT at eight per cent. The discounts, involving a 15 per cent reduction in the standing charge and a pro rata cut in the price of gas used, will be offered from April in a trial area embracing Somerset, Devon and Cornwall.

Amerada, the third largest North Sea oil and gas producer after BP and Shell, says that it will supply gas from its own reserves and guarantee to fix prices for two years.

In addition, Amerada Hess Gas has linked with Sun Alliance, the insurer, to offer customers full central heating service contracts for £80 a year, more than £20 cheaper than the three-star contract on offer from British Gas.

Caroline Harper, the managing director of Amerada Hess Gas, said: "The reason we can afford to do it is by cutting out the middleman — British Gas."

Amerada Hess is the first of six companies known to be preparing to take part in the trial to declare its hand on prices. Sweb, the electricity supply company in the South West, has pledged to undercut British Gas by at least 10 per cent. Other competitors will be Texaco/Calor, Amoco/Seeboard, Eastern Electricity and Total.

The trial area is being set up as part of the phased liberalisation of the household gas market. Independent gas companies will be allowed to compete to supply a further 2 million homes in the South of England from April 1997, with full competition nationwide from April 1998.

The Government believes that this will lead to lower prices for all consumers. Industrial and commercial gas users have already seen big price reductions because of liberalisation, although exactly how the transmission system will be organised under a competitive regime remains to be settled.

Electricity markets are also to be opened nationwide from April 1998. But in spite of the greater complexity of the electricity regime, development of trial areas is at a later stage. Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, is expected to announce next week that he has selected PA Consulting to draw up detailed plans for a competitive market, in preference to rival bidders, including IBM.

Four SNC directors go after takeover

BY OUR BANKING CORRESPONDENT

FOUR former directors of Smith New Court have left the City firm of marketmakers and others are expected to follow as politics take their toll in the wake of its takeover by Merrill Lynch.

Merrill Lynch's £526.3 million acquisition of SNC was announced in July. In mid-October, SNC's name officially disappeared and the board was dissolved. Delayed SNC bonuses were paid at the end of July, but certain key staff were encouraged to stay until the end of last month with additional bonus payments.

Last week, Nichola Pease, the highly regarded head of SNC's European broking business, left along with Jeremy Tulk-Hart, head of UK syndication.

Michael Sperring left the board, of his own volition, to become a consultant in the summer. He retains an office at Merrill Lynch.

These departures follow the exit of Philip Kay, head of Japanese broking and Asian sales in London, who resigned in August. More are expected to go in January after Merrill Lynch pays the first tranche of guaranteed bonuses. The second tranche is not payable until January 1997.

About 20 analysts, traders and administration staff are also understood to have been made redundant since the acquisition. Staff are understood to be less than pleased about the manner in which Merrill Lynch procedures have been introduced.

Michael Marks, SNC's former chairman who became deputy chairman of Merrill Lynch's international activities and co-head of global equities, emphasised that only four former directors had left.

He said that Mr Kay's departure was the only one that "probably would not have happened" if SNC had not been acquired by Merrill. He said: "We disagreed on strategy and he has decided to go."

Mr Marks insisted that the takeover had gone "perfectly" and "to the very best of our expectations". He added that whenever "you are putting people businesses together" there are the odd departures.

Ms Pease, according to Mr Marks, had decided to return to the "buy side" of the business. She is understood to be joining Rowe-Price Fund Management next year.

O'Reilly and Lloyd Webber interested

Black in talks over United News titles

BY PATRICIA TEHAN

CONRAD Black, the Canadian proprietor of *The Daily Telegraph*, is understood to have expressed interest in certain newspapers controlled by United News & Media, owner of the *Sunday Express* and *Daily Express* titles.

Talks with Mr Black and other media magnates have been taking place for several months, although this has not been officially confirmed by United News. Tony O'Reilly, the Irish entrepreneur who runs the Independent Newspapers media group, and Michael Green's Carlton Communications, are also believed to have held talks with Lord Stevens, chairman of United.

There is no planned timing for a sale, and Lord Stevens, who has headed United since 1981, has made it clear to potential buyers that he is willing to sell the company's newspaper portfolio as a whole or in parts. Indications are that some potential buyers are interested in the national titles — the *Daily Express*, *Sunday Express* and *Daily Star* — with others focusing on some or all of the regional titles, including the *Yorkshire Post*. Lord Stevens is believed to be hopeful of raising about £500 million, although some City analysts put this at the top end of expectations.

The newspaper price wars have hit United's national titles badly. The circulation of both Express titles has fallen, a factor that has affected advertising revenues.

Sir Nicholas Lloyd, editor of the *Daily Express*, resigned last week and will leave at the end of the month. Sir Nicholas previously contemplated a management buyout of the Express titles.

Speculation over the weekend had it that Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber, the multimillionaire composer and a friend of Sir Nicholas, was attempting to put together a bid for Express Newspapers, valuing the titles at some £300 million.

Mr Black's Hollinger holding company owns 63.7 per cent of the Telegraph group, which includes *The Daily* and *Sunday Telegraph*. Last February he attempted to buy out the minority interests, but was unable to agree a price with the Telegraph's independent directors.

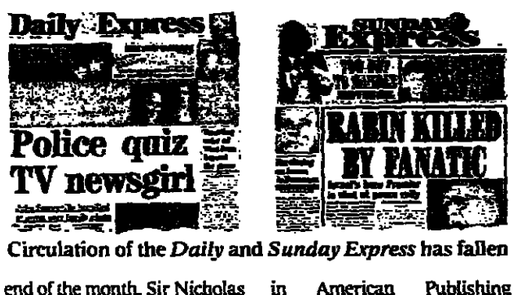
Mr Black plans to consolidate his newspaper interests in American Publishing (AMC), based in Chicago, a move that he hopes will improve access to the US markets for funding.

This is not the first time Mr Black has shown interest in United's portfolio. Hollinger built up an 8.8 per cent stake in the former United Newspapers in the summer of 1989. He sold the stake in 1992 for £60 million, at an estimated loss of £18.6 million, when he disclosed plans to seek a stock market listing for the Telegraph. According to Lord Stevens, Mr Black, after building up the stake, proposed a reverse takeover of United, a proposal rejected by Lord Stevens. At the time, Mr Black was believed to have been particularly interested in United's regional titles. Mr Black was not available for comment yesterday.

United's name change, earlier this year, was designed to reflect the changed mix of businesses. Although its newspaper business includes the *Express* titles and the *Daily Star*, less than 20 per cent of group profits flow from national newspaper operations. The regional papers in United's stable, which include the *Sheffield Star* and *South Wales Argus*, contribute around 24 per cent of profits.

Much of United's growth is derived from business magazines and exhibitions, and Lord Stevens wants to extend United's television and radio interests.

In September, United revealed a 7 per cent fall in mid-year profits to £65.1 million after writing off £2.9 million on the disposal of its UK consumer magazine operation. In line with the rest of the newspaper industry, United was hit by higher paper prices. Its national newspaper profits declined 41 per cent to £10.9 million after an 8 per cent circulation drop. Circulation of the *Daily Express* is running at 1.26 million compared with 1.89 million when Sir Nicholas was appointed editor in March 1986.



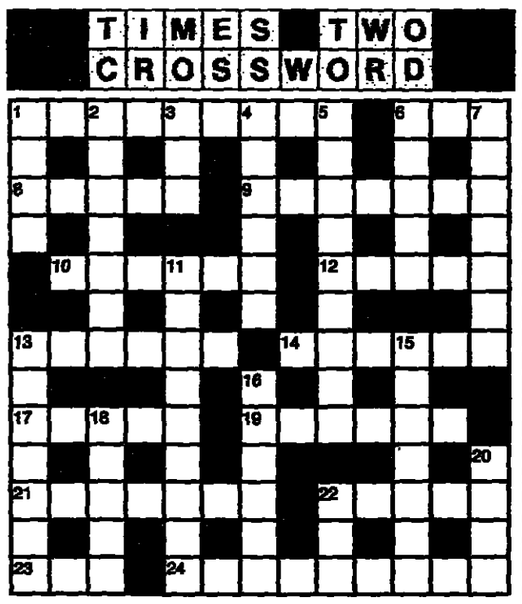
Circulation of the *Daily* and *Sunday Express* has fallen

JAMES MORGAN



Jordan Prior, 1½, celebrates Sunday trading at NatWest at the Lakeside Shopping Centre, Essex. The bank plans Sunday opening at 78 branches, using volunteer staff, in the three weeks before Christmas, despite union opposition to terms and conditions.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 619

ACROSS
1 The hunchback of Notre Dame (9)
6 Pull; a boat (3)
8 Love, worship (5)
9 On the sheltered side; W Indies islands (7)
10 Witticism (3,3)
12 (Eg door-turning) joint (5)
13 Unhappiness (6)
14 Organism group, includes yeast (6)
17 Pupil group; section of society (5)
19 Tedious (6)
21 Sprout, flourish (7)
22 Got down, bending leg (5)
23 Female sheep (3)
24 International cricket game (4,5)

DOWN
1 Wharf (4)
2 Expressing love (7)
3 Anger (3)
4 One dedicated to monastery; flattened at poles (6)
5 It is kept by generous host (4,5)
6 Conveyance; practise (5)
7 Heathen (7)
11 Illusory discovery (5,4)
13 Gruesome (7)
15 Item of clothing (7)
16 Ideally-beautiful male (6)
18 Be in concord (5)
20 US Mormon state (4)
22 Kipling novel (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 618

ACROSS: 1 Sighting 7 Drama 8 Oubliette 9 Lie 10 Twig 11 Disney 13 Gullet 14 Crutch 17 Waiter 18 Snip 20 Par 22 Socialist 23 Ukase 24 Declarer

DOWN: 1 Scott 2 Gabriel 3 Tail 4 Nitwit 5 Wally 6 Raleigh 7 Deanery 12 Recluse 13 Gropius 15 Tangier 16 Rescue 17 Wreak 19 Pater 21 Wall

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Midland signs Christmas card cash over to charity

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

IN TRUE festive spirit, Midland Bank has decided to shun the ever-increasing commerciality of Christmas. Instead of spending £90,000 on Christmas cards for its customers and business associates, the bank plans to make donations to three seasonal charities.

Keith Whitson, chief executive of Midland, said: "I think the whole thing has become desperately over-commercialised."

He added: "It irritates me to see the over-commercialisation of Christmas. I do believe that there is a real place for Christmas cards when they are sent on a personal basis, but the habit has been carried to ridiculous extremes at the corporate level."

During previous yule-tides, Midland has sent 215,000 cards to customers and business associates, half of which, said Mr Whitson "really do not mean anything either to the sender or the receiver. Rather than perpetuate something we do not feel comfortable with, I decided it would be much better to give the money to worthy causes, where it will bring some pleasure or relief to needy people."

The "Listening Bank's" charitable donation policy has three central themes: the elderly, youth, and the disabled. Midland will hand over cheques of £25,000 each to Help the Aged, Whizz Kidz, providers of mobility aids and wheelchairs, and Crisis.

Mr Whitson will wish Midland's customers a Happy Christmas through a stocking full of newspaper advertisements starting in the second full week of December.

The Midland's initiative comes in the wake of a similar gesture last Christmas by Harvey Nichols, one of the upmarket department store in Knightsbridge, London, which highlighted the names of charities in place of its traditionally lavish window display. Funds that would have been spent on festive window dressing at the store were donated instead to a series of London charities.

Mr Whitson said he would be pleased and flattered if other corporations followed the Midland's lead.

Estee Lauder valued at $2.6bn

BY MELVYN MARCKUS, CITY EDITOR

THE decision by Estée Lauder to apply for a New York share listing places a value of $2.6 billion on one of the world's leading cosmetic houses, synonymous with actress Liz Hurley.

The prospectus accompanying Estée Lauder's much-heralded share listing reveals that the family, headed by Mrs Estée Lauder, is issuing 14 million A shares at a price of $23 to raise $322 million.

Although 12 per cent of the equity is being offered, the Lauder family will retain 97.7 per cent of the votes, in view of the disparity in voting rights between the A and B shares. The A shares, on offer across the Atlantic, command one vote, while the B shares command ten.

Although the offer will raise more than $300 million, only $6 million will be retained by the family, the majority of the cash going to family members.

At the offer for sale price of $23, the shares yield 1.5 per cent and are being sold on an historic price earnings ratio of 25. Net profits for 1994-95 amounted to $121 million.

Mrs Lauder will retain a 14 per cent interest, while her son, Leonard, 62, will retain 51.3 per cent of the votes.



Hurley: Lauder's face

Victrex valued at £120m

Victrex, a former ICI polymer maker, the subject of a management buyout two years ago, is seeking new cash via a flotation that will value it at £120 million.

The company will complete its full listing by the year end.

Peter Rowley, chairman, who led the buyout, said the company needed an injection of new cash and access to capital markets to fuel its development. For the year to September 30, sales rose 33 per cent to £31.3 million while operating profits rose 46 per cent to £10.2 million.

Between 40 per cent and 50 per cent of Victrex's equity will go into the market in its float through a placing and intermediaries offer with Baring Brothers acting as sponsor.

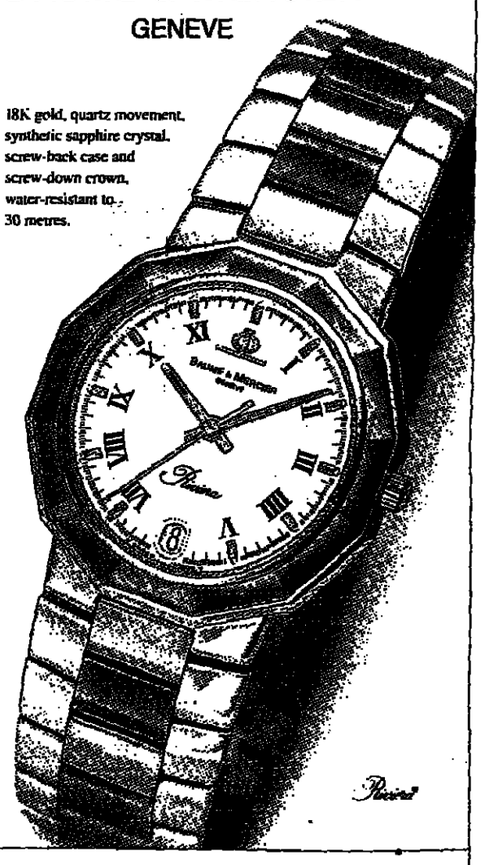
London leads

The Bank of England reports average daily turnover of foreign exchange business in London during April at $464 billion, a 60 per cent leap on April 1992. This percentage increase is far greater than those overseas. New York, for example, saw turnover rise 46 per cent over the same period while Tokyo was 34 per cent ahead.

Lloyd's plea

Lloyd's of London steps up its campaign to win over disaffected names today as John Stace, the deputy chairman, arrives in Australia to meet Australasian members. Over the next two weeks, he will be trying to persuade names in Australia and New Zealand to help to fund Equitas, Lloyd's new commercial company set up to reinsure Lloyd's market liabilities for 1992 and prior years.

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